



## FUTURE OF QUEBEC SEPARATIST PARTY STANDS IN DOUBT

Page 2



## PUTIN TURNING UP ECONOMIC HEAT ON UKRAINE TALKS

Page 9

# Aruba TODAY

On Top Of The News Email: [news@arubatoday.com](mailto:news@arubatoday.com) website: [www.arubatoday.com](http://www.arubatoday.com) Tel: +297 582-7800 Thursday, April 10, 2014

## School Slashing Shocks Town



## Teen Stabs 22 People at Pennsylvania High School

Alex Hribal, the suspect in the multiple stabbings at the Franklin Regional High School in Murrysville, Pa., is escorted by police to a district magistrate to be arraigned on Wednesday, April 9, 2014, in Export, Pa. Authorities say Hribal has been charged after allegedly stabbing and slashing at least 20 people at a Pittsburgh high school Wednesday.

(AP Photo/Keith Srakocic)

Page 4



# Future of Quebec's separatist party in doubt

**BENJAMIN SHINGLER**

**Associated Press**

**QUEBEC CITY (AP)** — Quebec's separatist party faces doubts about its survival after voters solidly rejected its main goal of making the French-speaking province an independent country.

Voters ousted the Parti Quebecois from power in provincial legislative elections largely centered on the independence debate. The PQ got just 25 percent of the popular vote in Monday's election, its worst showing since it first participated in elections in 1970.

It was a shocking blow for a party that took power in a minority government just 18 months ago.

Premier Pauline Marois had called the snap elections believing that her pro-independence Parti Quebecois could win a parliamentary majority, buoyed by the popularity of its proposed "charter of values" that would ban public employees from wearing Muslim headscarves and other overt religious symbols.

Instead, the Quebec Liberals, staunch supporters of Canadian unity, came away with the majority in Monday's vote, winning 70 seats in the 125-member National Assembly.

Chantal Herbert, a columnist for the *Toronto Star*, called it a "life-threatening defeat" for the Parti Quebecois.

With only 30 seats in the legislature, the PQ now faces four years in opposi-

tion to ponder its future.

Quebec's identity has been contentious since the 1760s when the British completed their takeover of what was then called New France. In the 1960s, the Parti Quebecois was

million sets its own income tax, has its own immigration policy favoring French speakers, and has legislation prioritizing French over English. Twice, voters have rejected sovereignty, though only by a razor-thin

PQ candidate, media mogul Pierre Karl Peladeau, passionately declared his dream of making Quebec an independent country. At a rally Monday night, Peladeau and other PQ leaders insisted they would

ceded the party will need to re-assess its approach after what many described as the province's most vicious election campaign in years.

"The verdict is in... we made our mistakes," said



**Quebec Premier designate Philippe Couillard, right, joins hands with Daniel Johnson, president of the transition committee, at a caucus meeting at the legislature in Quebec City, Wednesday, April 9, 2014.**

(AP Photo/The Canadian Press, Jacques Boissinot)

formed under the leadership of a TV commentator-turned-politician named Rene Levesque, who would go on to rule the province for nine years.

Quebec, which is 80 percent French-speaking, has plenty of autonomy already. The province of 8.1

margin in a 1995 referendum.

But in recent years support for independence has fallen.

Marois herself tried to downplay the sovereignty issue during the campaign but the strategy floundered after one prominent

not give up that quest.

"We will never abandon it — never!" Bernard Drainville, a cabinet member in the Marois government, shouted before leading the party faithful in a chant of "We want a country, we want a country!"

But even PQ veterans con-

Francois Gendron, the longest-serving PQ member, who was deputy premier under Marois. Gendron partly blamed a profusion of negative media coverage for the result. He said the PQ will need to go through a transition period but will rebuild. □

## Four people stabbed at Toronto office building

**ROB GILLIES**

**Associated Press**

**TORONTO (AP)** — A former employee of a human resources company stabbed four of the company's workers at a Toronto office building before being subdued, officials said Wednesday. Toronto police Det. Dan Darnbrough said employees held the man before police arrived. Darnbrough said two of the

four are in serious condition. A 32-year-old woman and three men between the ages of 35 and 45 were injured, he said. Ceridian, a global payroll and human resources company known for its software, said four of its employees were attacked by a former employee. Ceridian, based in Bloomington, Minnesota said the four are being treated in hospital.

Darnbrough said the man, approximately 45-years old, is in custody, following the stabbing on the fifth floor of the building. Police said they believe the suspect used a knife.

Police earlier said they were called at about 9:30 a.m. local time with reports that "a man with scissors" had entered the business and began stabbing people.

Television footage showed

police putting a handcuffed man, wearing a bloodied shirt, into a police car. The man turned his head while in the backseat and said hello to a TV camera pointed at him.

Police have not released the suspect's identity. Police locked down the building's fifth floor to collect evidence. Steve Paraskevopoulos, who worked on the fourth floor of the

building, recalls hearing a commotion coming from above. "It was kind of a stampede kind of sound," he said. "It was an odd thing, we have thick slab concrete floors. You never hear a thing from somebody above you unless there's construction."

Paraskevopoulos later saw the victims, who were smeared with noticeable traces of blood. □



# Five Years Later, Obama Returns to Fort Hood to Mourn

PETER BAKER

MANNY FERNANDEZ

ALAN BLINDER

© 2014 New York Times

KILLEEN, Texas - Five years after a similar visit, President Barack Obama was back Wednesday on the same field in front of the same building on the same Army post in the same state, with some of the same faces again grieving for soldiers killed in an act of senseless violence.

For president and mourners

posed to be safe. We still do not yet know exactly why. But we do know this. We must honor their lives not in word or talk, but in deed and in truth."

While it was still being determined why a soldier shot three of his comrades and then himself, Obama vowed to do more to address mental illness among veterans.

"Today, four American soldiers are gone; four Army families are devastated,"

the courage of a generation of men and women who signed up to protect their country only to lose their lives at home.

Gen. Ray Odierno, the Army chief of staff and former commander in Iraq during some of the worst of the fighting there, said death in combat was "a risk we can understand" as soldiers.

"That these soldiers were lost on American soil at the hands of one of our own

Obama to party fundraisers in Houston later in the day. Accompanied by the first lady, Michelle Obama, the president visited privately with the wounded and families of the slain before addressing a crowd of thousands outside the headquarters of III Corps here on the nation's largest Army post.

The service came seven days after Lopez killed three soldiers and wounded 16 others before tak-

to be set off by his dispute over the leave request.

Lopez, who had served four months in Iraq in 2011, had a number of mental health issues. He was being treated for depression and anxiety, and had been prescribed Ambien, a sleep aid.

He was being evaluated for possible post-traumatic stress disorder, and had seen a military psychiatrist last month, although he had shown no signs that he might commit a violent act, officials said.

Fort Hood officials had at first emphasized his troubled mental state as playing a role in the shooting, but they have since played down the significance of his psychiatric medical conditions, focusing instead on the verbal altercation he had with soldiers from his unit over his leave request. Many of Lopez's victims were soldiers in his unit, the 49th Transportation Battalion. Eleven of the 19 soldiers he killed or wounded were shot inside the battalion's administrative office, where his argument over his leave request began.

Collectively, the three soldiers who were killed had 50 years of service in the Army. Sgt. 1st Class Daniel M. Ferguson served nearly 21 years and was engaged to be married.

Staff Sgt. Carlos A. Lazaney-Rodriguez was months away from retiring after 20 years. Sgt. Timothy W. Owens joined the service after the start of the wars in Afghanistan and Iraq, knowing he could be sent into combat. All three grew up in small towns; in all, they were deployed overseas nine times, each of them at least once to Iraq.

Four soldiers wounded in the shooting remained hospitalized in stable condition, according to a military official.

Two of the soldiers were receiving treatment at Fort Hood's Carl R. Darnall Army Medical Center and two more were being held at Scott & White Memorial Hospital, a civilian facility in Temple, east of the post. All of the soldiers were reported in stable condition. □



President Barack Obama and first lady Michelle Obama turn to leave after paying their respects during a memorial ceremony, Wednesday, April 9, 2014, at Fort Hood Texas, for those killed there in a shooting last week. President Barack Obama is reprising his role as chief comforter as he returns once again to a grief-stricken corner of America to mourn with the families of those killed last week at Fort Hood and offer solace to the nation.

(AP Photo/Carolyn Kaster)

alike, the outdoor service for the victims of last week's military base rampage at Fort Hood proved a haunting repeat of the first mass shooting on Obama's watch, in the fall of 2009. The casualty toll was lighter this time and the apparent motives different, but the anguish was no less powerful.

"To the men and women of Fort Hood," a somber Obama said, "part of what makes this so painful is that we've been here before. This tragedy tears at wounds still raw from five years ago. Once more, soldiers who survived foreign war zones were struck down here at home, where they're sup-

he said. "As commander in chief, I'm determined we will continue to step up our efforts to reach our troops and veterans who are hurting, to deliver to them the care that they need and to make sure we never stigmatize those that have the courage to seek help."

Arrayed in front of the president were three helmets mounted on rifles, three sets of boots and three photographs, one for each of those shot to death by Spc. Ivan A. Lopez on April 2, just as there were 13 such sets five years ago. And just as he did in November 2009, after Maj. Nidal Malik Hasan's shooting spree, Obama paid homage to

makes this tragedy heartbreaking and inexplicable," he said.

The service ended with a sober rendition of "Amazing Grace," a 21-gun salute and a mournful playing of Taps.

Among the other dignitaries joining the president at the service were Gen. Martin E. Dempsey, the chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff; Christine H. Fox, the deputy secretary of defense; John M. McHugh, secretary of the Army; Texas Lt. Gov. David Dewhurst; the state's two Republican senators, John Cornyn and Ted Cruz; and Rep. Nancy Pelosi, the House Democratic leader, who was to accompany

ing his own life, following an argument he had with soldiers from his unit about their handling of his request for leave.

In the span of a little more than eight minutes, Lopez, 34, fired at least 35 rounds at soldiers in a two-block area, using a .45-caliber handgun he bought in March from the same local gun store where Hasan purchased his weapon, officials said.

Investigators have not publicly established a clear motive, but unlike Hasan, who said he was trying to protect "my Muslim brothers" from soldiers deploying to Afghanistan, Army officials said Lopez appeared



# Teen stabs 22 people at Pennsylvania High School

**JOE MANDAK**  
**KEVIN BEGOS**  
**Associated Press**

MURRYSVILLE, Pennsylvania (AP) — A 16-year-old boy with a "blank expression" stabbed and slashed 21 students and a security guard in the crowded halls of his suburban Pittsburgh high school Wednesday before an assistant principal tackled him. At least five students were critically wounded, including a boy who was on a ventilator after a knife pierced his liver, missing his heart and aorta by only millimeters, doctors said. The rampage — which came after years in which U.S. schools have geared much of their emergency planning toward mass shootings, not stabbings

— set off a screaming stampede, left blood on the floor and walls, and brought teachers rushing to help the victims. The motive was under investigation. Police didn't immediately release the name of the suspect, who was taken into custody and treated for a minor hand wound. Late in the afternoon, he was brought into court in shackles and a hospital gown to face charges. The attack unfolded just minutes before the start of classes at 1,200-student Franklin Regional High School, in an upper-middle-class area 15 miles (24 kilometers) east of Pittsburgh. It was over in about five minutes, during which the



Students walk past a row of buses as they leave the campus of the Franklin Regional School District after more than 20 students were stabbed by a knife-wielding suspect at nearby Franklin Regional High School on Wednesday, April 9, 2014, in Murrysville, Pa., near Pittsburgh. The suspect, a male student, was taken into custody and is being questioned.

(AP Photo/Gene J. Puskar)

## Lent Menu



*It's time to be good!*

CALL NOW FOR RESERVATIONS **586.59.00**

J.E. Irausquin Blvd. 374, Oranjestad, Aruba  
 AquaGrillAruba



boy ran wildly down about a hallway, slashing other students with kitchen knives about up to 10 inches (25 centimeters) long, police said.

Witnesses said the boy with the knives at first tackled a freshman and stabbed him in the stomach, then got up and ran wildly down the hall, slashing other students. Nate Moore, 15, said he saw the first attack and was going to try to break it up when the boy got up and slashed his face, requiring 11 stitches.

"It was really fast. It felt like he hit me with a wet rag because I felt the blood splash on my face. It spurted up on my forehead," he said. The attacker "had the same expression on his face that he has every day, which was the freakiest part," Moore said. "He wasn't saying anything. He didn't have any anger on his face. It was just a blank expression."

Assistant Principal Sam King finally tackled the boy and disarmed him, and a police officer who is regularly assigned to the school handcuffed him, police said.

Doctors said they expected all the victims to survive, despite large and deep puncture wounds to the abdomen in some cases. King's son told The Associ-

ated Press that his father was treated at a hospital, though authorities have said he did not suffer any knife wounds.

"He says he's OK. He's a tough cookie and sometimes hides things, but I believe he's OK," Zack King said. He added: "I'm proud of him."

As for what set off the attack, Murrysville Police Chief Thomas Seefeld said investigators were looking into reports of a threatening phone call between the suspect and another student the night before. Seefeld didn't specify whether the suspect received or made the call.

Schools in the U.S. have concentrated their emergency preparations on dealing with shooting rampages. Nevertheless, there have been at least two major stabbing attacks at U.S. schools over the past year, the first at a community college in Texas last April that wounded at least 14 people, and another, also in Texas, that killed a 17-year-old student and injured three others at a high school in September.

Mia Meixner, 16, said the initial assault Wednesday touched off a "stampede of kids" yelling, "Run! Get out of here! Someone has a knife!" □



# 1 child dead, 14 hurt in Florida day care crash

MIKE SCHNEIDER  
SUZETTE LABOY

Associated Press

WINTER PARK, Florida (AP)

— A car smashed into an Orlando-area day care Wednesday, killing a child and injuring 14 others, at least 12 of them children, officials said. Authorities were searching for the driver of the SUV that started the chain reaction crash then left the scene.

Arnold Palmer Hospital for Children wasn't releasing any more information on the age and sex of the child who died, said Katie Dagenais, a spokeswoman for the hospital where the most-seriously injured were being treated.

One person at the hospital was in critical condition and five others were in serious condition, Dagenais said.

In all, 13 people were hospitalized and two others were treated at the scene, said John Mulhall, a spokesman for the Orange County Fire Rescue.

Several of the injured at the KinderCare building in Winter Park were reported to be in "very, very serious condition," said Florida Highway Patrol spokeswoman Wanda Diaz.

Diaz said the Toyota Solara convertible had gone out of control after it was struck by a Dodge Durango, jumped a curb and smashed into the day care, breaking through the wall and into the building.



A Florida state trooper, center, escorts a group of parents to a day care center to pick up their children after a vehicle crashed into the center, killing one child and injuring 14 others, officials in Winter Park, Fla. said, Wednesday, April 9, 2014.

(AP Photo/John Raoux)

Local television footage showed small children and infants in cribs taken outside on the day care's playground and several of the injured were carried out on stretchers.

The highway patrol reported that the injured were taken to five different hospitals.

Late Wednesday afternoon parents could be seen waiting to pick up their children, and then clutching them in their arms as they were escorted to their vehicles by authorities.

The day care's website says the center provides childcare and learning opportunities for children ages 6 weeks to 12 years old and has been in the community for more than 25 years. □

That driver was not hurt.

The Durango fled the scene but was located almost two hours later after it had been left at a home. Highway patrol said it is looking for 26-year-old Robert Corchado. Troopers said he was the driver of the Durango, but wouldn't say how they established that. Troopers said Corchado may be trying to leave the area.

"Please keep a lookout and let us know if you see anything," said Orange County Mayor Teresa Jacobs said.

Jacobs called the crash an "absolute tragedy and disaster."

## 5th arrest made in Detroit mob attack on motorist

COREY WILLIAMS  
Associated Press

DETROIT (AP) — Detroit police have arrested a fifth person in the beating of a motorist who'd stopped to help a 10-year-old boy struck by his truck.

Chief James Craig says the 19-year-old was arrested Wednesday, but his name hasn't been released. Craig says more arrests are "a strong possibility."

Arraignments were Tuesday for 17-year-old Bruce Wimbush Jr., 30-year-

old Wonzey Saffold and 24-year-old James Davis. They're charged with assault with intent to murder and assault with intent to commit great bodily harm. A 16-year-old boy also faces a hearing Saturday.

The motorist, Steve Utash, remains hospitalized with head injuries. At least six people punched and kicked him April 2, when the 54-year-old tree trimmer stopped to check on David Harris after the boy stepped in front of his truck.

EQ3

NEW ARRIVALS

Reclaimed Teak Bed

Aff. 4198

Gown Jewelry Holder

Aff. 55

Claire Wall Clock

Aff. 110

Muse Ring Holder

Aff. 22

DESIGN LIVES HERE...

fEQ3 ARUBA

www.aruba-furniture.com +297 583 3373

Across the street from Ling & Sons Supermarket



**THE Sopranos PIANO BAR**

**LIVE PIANO ENTERTAINMENT at 8pm**

**BADA BING!**

Open daily at 5pm

**DAILY HAPPY HOURS**

**5 to 8pm + 1 to 2am**

On ALL drinks!

**Tuesdays COCKTAIL WORKSHOP**

between 5 and 8pm

mix, shake & drink your own made cocktails

**\$25**

**Wednesdays Champagne Night**

Champagne by the glass \$4

**Ladies Only!!**

**Saturdays at 8pm**

**Acoustic Night**

Sing-A-Long Piano Bar

f

ARUBA TWINE TIDINE

Located at Arawak Garden, Palm Beach - tel: (+297) 586 8622 - [www.sopranospianobar.com](http://www.sopranospianobar.com)

## Mexican national executed for 1997 Texas slaying

**MICHAEL GRACZYK**

**Associated Press**

**HUNTSVILLE, Texas (AP)** —

A man who escaped prison in his native Mexico while serving a murder sentence was executed in Texas on Wednesday for fatally beating a former Baylor University history professor and attacking his wife more than 16 years ago.

Ramiro Hernandez-Llanas was lethally injected in the state's death chamber in Huntsville. The 44-year-old was pronounced dead at 6:28 p.m.

Hernandez-Llanas was in the U.S. illegally when he was arrested for the October 1997 slaying of 49-year-old Glen Lich. Just 10 days earlier, Lich had given Hernandez-Llanas a job helping with renovations at his ranch near Kerrville, about 65 miles (105 kilometers) northwest of San Antonio, in exchange for living quarters.

Investigators said Hernandez-Llanas lured Lich from his house, then repeatedly clubbed him with a piece of steel rebar. Armed with a knife, he then attacked



This photo provided by the Texas Department of Corrections is of Ramiro Hernandez-Llanas. (AP Photo)

Lich's wife. She survived and testified against Hernandez-Llanas, who also was linked to a rape and stabbing, and was found

with homemade weapons in prison.

"This is exactly why we have the death penalty," Lucy Wilke, an assistant

Kerr County district attorney who helped prosecute Hernandez-Llanas, said ahead of the execution. "Nobody, even prison guards, is safe from him." Hernandez-Llanas was the second Texas inmate to receive a lethal injection of a new supply of pentobarbital. Texas Department of Criminal Justice officials have refused to identify the source of the powerful sedative, contending secrecy is needed to protect the drug's provider from threats of violence from capital punishment opponents. The U.S. Supreme Court backed the state's position in a related case last week.

Texas and other states that have the death penalty have been scrambling for substitute drugs or new sources for drugs for lethal injections after major drug-makers — many based in Europe with longtime opposition to the death penalty — stopped selling to prisons and corrections departments.

Hernandez-Llanas' appeals were exhausted, and

the Texas parole board on Tuesday refused to delay his death sentence or commute it to life in prison. Hernandez-Llanas was among more than four dozen Mexican citizens awaiting execution in the U.S. when the International Court of Justice in The Hague, Netherlands, ruled in 2004 that they weren't properly advised of their consular rights when arrested. A measure mandated by the U.S. Supreme Court to enforce that ruling has languished in Congress.

Euclides del Moral, a Mexico Foreign Ministry deputy director general, said Tuesday there were "certain gray aspects" in the consulate notification in Hernandez-Llanas' case. "The execution of a Mexican national is of great concern," he said.

However, the issue never surfaced in Hernandez-Llanas' appeals, which focused primarily on claims that his mental impairment made him ineligible for the death penalty. Testimony from psychiatrists who said he was not mentally impaired and would remain a danger was faulty, his attorneys argued.

He wouldn't be facing execution "but for the testimony of two experts, neither of whose testimony can withstand a moment's scrutiny, and neither of whom should have been permitted to testify at all," lawyers Sheri Johnson and Naomi Torr said.

According to trial testimony, Hernandez-Llanas was arrested just hours after the attacking Lich and his wife. He was sleeping in the bed where he had wrapped his arm around the terrorized woman, who managed to wriggle from his grasp and restraints without waking him and call police.

## California man confesses to 40 killings

**KIM CHANDLER**

**SCOTT SMITH**

**Associated Press**

**FRESNO, California (AP)** —

A suspected contract killer charged in California with murdering nine people confessed to investigators that he carried out up to 40 slayings in a career spanning decades, and claimed to work for a drug cartel, a prosecutor said Wednesday.

Errek Jett, the district attorney in Lawrence County, Alabama, said that Jose Manuel Martinez, 51, told investigators he carried out the crimes working as

an enforcer for a drug cartel. Jett said they believe Martinez because of the details he gave investigators.

Martinez was arrested last year shortly after crossing the border from Mexico into Arizona and sent to Alabama, where he awaits trial on one murder charge. Once word got out, a steady stream of investigators from across the U.S. came to question Martinez, Jett said.

Defense attorney Thomas Turner, who represents Martinez in that lone case, said his client is eager to

start trial in Alabama, so he can return to California. Turner said Martinez maintains his innocence to the charge there and doesn't seem to be a hardened killer.

Prosecutors in California say otherwise.

Martinez targeted victims in California between 1980 and 2011, Tulare County Assistant District Attorney Anthony Fultz said. He was charged with the nine slayings on Tuesday.

Martinez has lived on and off in Richgrove, a small farming community in central California. He's now

being held in Alabama, awaiting trial in a 2013 slaying, and Fultz said he's also wanted in Florida on suspicion of two killings there in 2006. The California charges would make Martinez eligible for a death sentence, if he is convicted.

Fultz said he is confident Martinez committed at least the nine killings he's charged with, but he has heard figures as high as 30 from across the nation.

"We're actually not sure what the full scope is," Fultz said. "It will depend upon what the investigation shows." □





## JEEP TOUR SPECIAL

OPERATED BY PELICAN ADVENTURES

• Half day tour, • Full day with Snorkeling Cruise, • drive your own Jeep optional with airco,  
• 4 people in a jeep • no Crowded Jeeps • Lunch & Sodas are provided.

**Stops:** Lighthouse, Gold ruins, North coast, Natural Bridge, Arikok National Park, Caves, Baby Beach & Lunch at the Pelican Pier.

Visit us at Casa del Mar, Playa Linda, Holiday Inn Concierge/lobby desk/ beach huts or at our own Pelican Pier, located between the Holiday Inn & Playa Linda Resort.

For reservations call 587-2302 (Mon-Sun) Or book online at: [www.pelican-aruba.com](http://www.pelican-aruba.com)



Celebrating our 28th anniversary with YOU!

PRESENT THIS AD AND RECEIVE \$10 DISCOUNT PER COUPLE

### US Financial Front:

## America's wholesale stockpiles up 0.5% in February

MARTIN CRUTSINGER  
AP Economics Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — U.S. wholesale businesses increased their stockpiles for an eighth consecutive month in February as their sales rose at the fastest clip since November, good signs for future economic growth. Wholesale businesses boosted stockpiles by 0.5 percent in February following an increase of 0.8 percent in January, the Commerce Department reported Wednesday.

Sales rose 0.7 percent in February, rebounding from a sharp 1.8 percent drop in January which had been blamed in part on severe weather that cut into demand.

The solid gain in sales should encourage businesses to keep restocking their shelves to meet rising demand. That will mean increased orders to factories and rising production which would boost economic growth.

Many economists say that the economy slowed in the January-March quarter but will rebound this quarter.

The government tracks inventories held by wholesalers, manufacturers and retailers. The report covering all inventory levels will be issued next Monday.

For wholesale inventories, stockpiles of autos and auto parts rose 0.5 percent while lumber stockpiles increased 1.2 percent.

Many economists expect that the economy, which grew at a 2.6 percent rate in the October-December quarter, slowed in the January-March period, likely growing somewhere between 1.5 percent and 2 percent.

That forecast is based on

a view that the harsh winter weather cut into various types of economic activity from shopping at the mall to factory production. Some estimate that the weather cut growth by about 1 percentage point in the first quarter, but will add 1 percentage point to activity in the April-June quarter as the economy is spurred by pent-up demand in such areas as auto sales.

Another factor that affected first quarter growth is a slowdown in the pace of restocking following a huge surge last summer.

Inventory building had contributed 1.6 percentage point to economic growth in the third quarter when the economy had grown at a 4.1 percent rate. By the fourth quarter, that contribution had dwindled to just 0.03 percentage point. Analysts are not looking for inventories to add much to first quarter growth.

But for the rest of the year there is optimism that growth will rebound to a solid rate of around 3 percent. That could make 2014 the best growth year for the economy since 2005.

The expectation is that stronger hiring will boost incomes and that will spur consumer spending, which accounts for 70 percent of all economic activity.

There was good news on the hiring front in the past two months. Employers added 192,000 jobs in March, just below a revised 197,000 increase in February. Those gains suggest that the economy has recovered from the hiring slowdown caused by severe winter storms in December and January. □



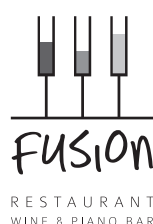
Containers sit in stacks after being unloaded from a ship at the Port of Baltimore's Seagirt Marine Terminal in Baltimore. The Commerce Department reported how much U.S. wholesale businesses adjusted their stockpiles in February on Wednesday April 9, 2014.

(AP Photo/Patrick Semansky)



**WHEN YOU'RE TALKING ABOUT FUSION - YOU'RE TALKING ABOUT ENTERTAINMENT**  
Enjoy talented local musicians and international performers together on 1 night!

**FEATURING:** Angelo Koolman, *Singer & Guitarist* • Roel de Vries, *Singer & Pianist*  
Angelo Kock, *Pianist* • Amy Sorinio & Band feat. Ivan Jansen • Ivan Quandus  
Richard Holmond • Steven van Ramshorst.



**HAPPY HOUR!**

8PM - 9PM 2 FOR 1  
ON BEER & WINE

**FREE!**

ENTRANCE

LOCATED AT ALHAMBRA CASINO & SHOPS | TEL 280-9994

J.E IRAUSQUIN BLVD # 47, ORANJESTAD, ARUBA | [WWW.FUSIONARUBA.COM](http://WWW.FUSIONARUBA.COM)

# BofA paying \$772M over selling credit card extras

**MARCY GORDON**

**AP Business Writer**

**WASHINGTON (AP)** — Bank

of America Corp. is paying \$772 million in fines and refunds to settle regulators' accusations that it misled customers who bought extra credit-card products and illegally charged others for credit monitoring and reporting services they didn't receive.

The Consumer Financial Protection Bureau and the U.S. Office of the Comptroller of the Currency announced the agreement Wednesday with the second-largest U.S. bank.

It is the largest settlement over credit card "add-ons" won by federal regulators, who have been examining the marketing of the

products by the financial industry for several years. It also marked the biggest refund amount ordered to date by the CFPB, a consumer watchdog agency created by Congress in the wake of the 2008 financial crisis. The agency has operated since mid-2011.

The regulators said about 2.9 million customers were affected in the Bank of America case. They say telemarketers made sales pitches for two credit-protection products that were misleading about their costs and benefits.

Charlotte, North Carolina-based Bank of America neither admitted nor denied the allegations. The bank said in a statement it already has issued refunds

to the majority of affected customers. Bank of America also said it stopped selling identity-theft protection products in December 2011, and terminated in August 2012 products offering debt relief for customers who lost their jobs or suffered other hardships.

The bank marketed two credit protection "add-on" services from 2010 through 2012 that allowed customers to ask for some credit-card debt to be cancelled if they lost their jobs or suffered other hardship. The regulators said the telemarketers often went off script to make sales pitches that were misleading and left out important information. For example, some customers were falsely led to

believe they'd be entitled to a \$25,000 "death benefit" by taking Credit Protection Plus. Rather than being automatically awarded as portrayed, customers had to complete an approval process to receive the benefit, the regulators said.

Bank of America also was accused of billing customers for several identity-theft protection products without getting their authorization or prior to getting it. Of the \$772 million in refunds, about \$459 million is going to some 1.5 million consumers who enrolled in the credit monitoring products and were said to be wrongly charged.

The bank also is paying a \$20 million penalty to the CFPB and a \$25 million

penalty to the Office of the Comptroller of the Currency, a Treasury Department agency. "We will continue to be vigilant in pursuit of anyone who deceives or mistreats consumers," CFPB Director Richard Cordray said in a conference call with reporters. "We intend to continue cleaning up this market as necessary to ensure that consumers are treated fairly." As regulators have cracked down on marketing of credit card "add-ons" in recent years, financial experts say many banks have discontinued the products. The settlement with Bank of America was the consumer agency's fifth agreement with a major bank over credit card "add-ons." □

# Florida bitcoin case tests money laundering limits

**CURT ANDERSON**

**AP Legal Affairs Writer**

**MIAMI BEACH, Florida (AP)** — Two police officers burst

through a hotel room door with guns drawn, yelling "Police! Get Down!" just after an alleged money laundering transaction went down. But instead of briefcases stuffed with a drug dealer's cash, this exchange involved an undercover officer with supposedly stolen credit cards and the virtual currency bitcoin. The February arrests of Pascal Reid and Michell Espinoza marked the first time any state has brought money laundering charges involving bitcoins, according to Miami-Dade State Attorney Katherine Fernandez Rundle. And it's likely to be a closely-watched test of whether criminal law can adapt to new digital forms of payment. "These cybercriminals are way ahead of the rest of us in terms of trying to figure out ways they can launder dirty money," Rundle said.

Investigators trolled through an online directory of bitcoin traders to find the 29-year-old Reid and 30-year-old Espinoza, setting up separate meetings with each of the men



**A man arrives for the Inside Bitcoins conference and trade show in New York. The February 2014 arrests of Pascal Reid and Michell Espinoza marked the first time any state has brought money laundering charges involving bitcoins, according to Miami-Dade State Attorney Katherine Fernandez Rundle. And it's likely to be a closely-watched test of whether criminal law can adapt to new digital forms of payment.**

**(AP Photo/Mark Lennihan)**

at restaurants and coffee shops. They were arrested at the same Miami Beach hotel on the same day, at different times.

Defense attorneys said the men have no previous criminal records and were simply enthusiasts of the payment format that allows people to convert cash into digital money for online transactions.

Still, undercover officers

with the U.S. Secret Service and Miami Beach police told both clearly that they wanted to buy bitcoins with cash supposedly generated by the hacking of Target Corp. customer information. The undercover officers said during the secretly videotaped meetings that they planned to use the bitcoins to acquire still more stolen credit cards. Attorneys for Reid and

Espinoza, both of whom have pleaded not guilty, say they will challenge the very legal foundations of the cases, which are being prosecuted separately. The arrest affidavits for both Reid and Espinoza refer to bitcoins as "electronic currency with no central authority." "My client has never dealt in the area of stolen credit cards," said Espinoza's attorney, Rene

Palomino Jr. "My client was simply selling a piece of personal property, which is what a bitcoin is. It has not been recognized as currency yet in the United States." The Internal Revenue Service issued guidance last month concluding that bitcoins can only be taxed as property and are not legal tender. Federal law enforcement agencies are watching whether bitcoins are used increasingly in criminal activity, such as the now-defunct Silk Road illegal drug marketplace. "The idea that illicit actors might exploit the vulnerabilities of virtual currency to launder money is not merely theoretical," said Jennifer Shasky Calvery, director of Treasury's Financial Crimes Enforcement Network, in a recent Florida speech to bankers. Still, bitcoins have been gaining popularity among mainstream businesses. Overstock.com recently became the first major retailer to accept digital money and the NBA's Sacramento Kings in January announced the team would accept bitcoins, another first. They are increasingly used in restaurants, coffee shops and elsewhere. □



**EARLY BIRD** Daily from 4 till 6:30 pm  
Appetizers, your choice between:  
Mix Salad / Caesar Salad / French Onion soup  
Entrees, your choice between:  
Catch of the day / Filet Mignon  
Chicken Breast / Fettucini Alfredo  
Dessert: Dame Blanche  
**TUESDAY ALL NIGHT LONG**  
**\$22.75**

**Fishes & More "The Restaurant"**  
Open from 4pm till 10:45 pm - 7 days a week!  
Arawak Garden, Palm Beach Tel: (+297) - 586 3659  
www.fishesandmore.com  
Easy Parking - Night time shopping

**Fishes & More**  
BAR SEAFOOD  
ARUBA WINE TIDINE

## Putin turns up economic heat before Ukraine talks

PETER LEONARD  
VLADIMIR ISACHENKOV

Associated Press

**MOSCOW (AP)** — Russian President Vladimir Putin turned up the heat on Ukraine on Wednesday by threatening to demand advance payment for gas supplies, a move designed to exert economic pressure as Ukraine confronts possible bankruptcy, a mutiny by pro-Russian separatists in the east and a Russian military buildup across the border.

NATO's top commander in Europe warned that the alliance could respond to the Russian military threat against Ukraine by deploying U.S. troops to Eastern Europe, but Putin's latest tactics suggest he may be aiming to secure Russia's clout with its neighbor without invading.

Speaking at a Cabinet session, the Russian leader voiced hope that diplomatic efforts to ease the Ukrainian crisis would yield "positive results," an apparent reference to talks set for next week that will bring together the U.S., the Eu-

ropean Union, Russia and Ukraine for the first time.

Russia wants the talks to focus on a roadmap for Ukraine that would include constitutional reforms to turn it into a federation and guarantee its neutral status. Those demands reflect the Kremlin's hope of retaining influence over its neighbor and ensuring it does not join NATO. Ukraine has responded by saying it will not be dictated by Russia. Taking a tough stance before the negotiations set for next week, Putin instructed the government to be prepared to charge Ukraine in advance for gas supplies — a step that would inflict more pain on a nation already teetering on the verge of bankruptcy. He said the change needed to be taken if "additional consultations" with the European Union fail to yield results.

Russia has already eliminated a gas discount it had given Ukraine, arguing that it was tied to a lease for Russia's Black Sea Fleet base in Crimea, a Ukrainian region that Russia annexed

last month.

And Ukraine has promised the International Monetary Fund that it will cut energy subsidies to residents in exchange for a bailout loan of up to \$14 billion. That means gas prices were set to rise 50 percent on May 1, even before the latest

salvo from Putin.

The Kremlin pressure comes as pro-Russia protesters have continued to occupy government buildings in eastern Ukraine.

Ukraine and the West have accused Moscow of fomenting the unrest to create a pretext for another

Russian military incursion similar to last month's takeover of Crimea.

Ukrainian Interior Minister Arsen Avakov said the standoff in Luhansk and the two neighboring Russian-leaning regions of Donetsk and Kharkiv must be resolved within two days. □



Russian President Vladimir Putin chairs a Cabinet meeting in the Novo-Ogaryovo residence outside Moscow, Wednesday, April 9, 2014. President Vladimir Putin has threatened that Russia's state-owned gas company could ask Ukraine to pay for gas in advance, according to Russian state news agencies. In a meeting Wednesday with government ministers, Putin said that asking for advance payments "corresponded with the contract" between Ukraine and Russia, but asked that state energy giant Gazprom refrain from such drastic measures until "additional consultations" between both sides. Fourth left is Prime Minister Dmitry Medvedev.

(AP Photo/Sergei Karpukhin, Pool)

**LADIES NIGHT**  
THURSDAYS AT 7PM  
**FREE CHAMPAGNE! FREE MANICURES!**  
JOIN US IN OUR FREE BLACK JACK TOURNAMENT WITH  
**\$300 IN TOTAL CASH PRIZES.**  
REGISTRATION 6PM | BLACK JACK TOURNAMENT STARTS AT 8PM  
LIVE ENTERTAINMENT: 3SOME FEATURING OFO ESCUDERO  
Management reserves the right to change or cancel promotions at their discretion. Must be a member of the Trop Advantage® Club to participate. Must be 18 years of age or older. Play responsibly www.gamblersanonymous.org.



## Pakistan market blast kills at least 22

**SALMAN MASOOD**

**DECLAN WALSH**

© 2014 New York Times

**ISLAMABAD** - A powerful explosion ripped through a crowded fruit market in Islamabad on Wednesday, killing at least 22 people and injuring about 100 in the deadliest attack in the Pakistani capital in more than five years.

The attack coincided with government efforts to negotiate a peace deal with the Pakistani Taliban, which is officially observing a cease-fire until Thursday. A spokesman for the Taliban immediately denied responsibility in the bombing. "Attacks on public places and targeting innocent people is regrettable and un-Islamic," the spokesman, Shahidullah Shahid, said in a statement

released to the Pakistani news media.

Instead, a man identifying himself as a spokesman for a little-known separatist group, the United Baluch Army, claimed responsibility for the bombing.

The group was virtually unheard-of until Tuesday, when it also claimed responsibility for an attack on a train as it passed through central Baluchistan province that killed 14 people and wounded 40 more. The supposed spokesman for the group, who gave his name as Mureed Baluch, made the claim for both bombings by telephone to several Pakistani journalists. Some analysts said they were treating the claim with caution. Baluch separatists have been fighting for independence from

Pakistan for about eight years now, accusing the central government of ignoring their sprawling, poverty-stricken province. But the United Baluch Army is not among the main militant groups, and until now Baluch militant groups have mostly limited their attacks to Baluchistan province.

Wednesday's attack occurred just after 8 a.m. in a bustling wholesale fruit and vegetable market on the outskirts of Islamabad, sending a loud boom across the city that spread panic during the morning rush hour.

The blast occurred in an open area where fruit that had been transported from farms in Punjab province was being auctioned to shopkeepers. □



**Pakistani investigators look for evidence at the spot of an explosion in Islamabad, Pakistan, Wednesday, April 9, 2014. A bomb ripped through a fruit and vegetable market on the outskirts of the Pakistani capital of Islamabad on Wednesday morning, killing scores of people and leaving dozens more wounded, officials said.** (AP Photo/B.K. Bangash)

## Car bombs in Baghdad kill 34 people

**QASSIM ZAHRA**

**Associated Press**

**BAGHDAD (AP)** — Car bombs hit several mostly Shiite neighborhoods of Baghdad and a town south of the Iraqi capital on Wednesday, killing at least 34 people and wounding dozens, officials said, the latest bout of violence ahead of the country's first parliamentary elections since the 2011 U.S. troop withdrawal.

No group immediately claimed responsibility for the attacks but the bomb-

ings bore the hallmarks of an al-Qaida-inspired group and other Sunni insurgents, who frequently use suicide and car bombs to target public areas and government buildings in their bid to undermine confidence in the Shiite-led government.

The explosions also coincided with the anniversary of the 2003 fall of Baghdad in the hands of U.S. troops.

The deadliest of the day's attacks took place in the town of Numaniyah,

about 80 kilometers (50 miles) south of Baghdad, where a bomb first went off in a busy commercial area, followed by a car bomb that exploded as people gathered to help the victims from the first blast. In all, five people were killed and 17 were wounded, police said.

Earlier in the day, a car bomb in Baghdad's central Nidhal Street killed four people and wounded 11, while five people died in a car bombing in the northern Kazimiyah district. □

## North Korea's Kim to further consolidate power as leader

**CHOE SANG-HUN**

© 2014 New York Times

North Korea's leader, Kim Jong Un, was re-elected as head of his country's top governing agency as its rubber-stamp parliament met in Pyongyang on Wednesday to help consolidate his power.

Kim's re-election as first chairman of the National Defense Commission indicated that he remained firmly in control in the North despite tightened U.N. sanctions and political upheavals that have rocked the government. Since taking over the reins of power following the death of his father, Kim Jong Il, in late 2011, Kim Jong Un has engineered a series of purges, sidelining many military leaders and members of the ruling Workers' Party elite. Last December, he executed Jang Song Thaek, his uncle, who had long been presumed to be the second most influential man in Pyongyang. Kim revamped the Supreme People's Assembly early last month by calling a general election in which state-appointed candidates ran unopposed and all the deputies won their seats with 100 percent support. On Wednesday, the legislature met in Pyongyang in a session widely seen as a formality in which Kim would fill key governing posts left vacant by his purges with younger cadres who would owe their loyalty directly to him.

In a parliamentary session two years ago, Kim assumed the top leadership role at the National Defense Commission, which had emerged as the North's main governing agency under his father.

Kim's re-election to the post on Wednesday reflected "the unchanged will of the military and the people to uphold and follow the respected marshal as the only center of solidarity and leadership," said the North's state-run Korean Central News Agency, or KCNA, citing Kim's military rank.

On the eve of the parliamentary gathering, the Political Bureau of the Workers' Party met on Tuesday to discuss organizational issues, the KCNA reported without elaborating. The Political Bureau was last appointed in April 2012, when Kim was going through a sensitive transition into power. A few key bureau members, including Jang, have since been toppled and were probably replaced during the meeting Tuesday.

Personnel decisions made at the back-to-back party and parliamentary meetings this week will provide outside analysts with a glimpse into who is rising and falling in Kim's world. His rise to power has been marked by frequent purges and reshuffles in the party and among military elites as Kim has tried to put his stamp on the new leadership lineup.

In the North Korean Constitution, the Parliament has the power to replace Cabinet ministers and members of the National Defense Commission, where Jang had been a senior member. It also adopts guidelines on key policy issues, such as the North's nuclear weapons development.

During the party meeting Tuesday, Kim also proposed working to improve the people's living standards and "protect the dignity and independence of the nation," a phrase the North often uses when referring to its efforts to strengthen its nuclear arsenal.

The KCNA did not elaborate. But the North has recently warned that it could carry out a "new form of nuclear test."

Almost exactly a year ago, Kim presided over a Workers' Party meeting to adopt a "new strategic line" that defied warnings from Washington. The party said North Korea must continue expanding its nuclear arsenal while working to rebuild its economy. □



## Trinidad & Tobago's ex-leader, coup target Robinson has died

TONY FRASER

Associated Press

PORT-OF-SPAIN, Trinidad

(AP) — Arthur Napoleon Raymond Robinson, a former Trinidad and Tobago prime minister who was held hostage for days and shot during a bloody 1990 coup attempt, died Wednesday after a prolonged illness. He



This June 1991 file photo shows Trinidad and Tobago Prime Minister Arthur Raymond Robinson. The former Trinidad leader shot during a bloody 1990 coup attempt, has died. He was 87. National Security Minister Gary Griffith said Robinson died Wednesday after being hospitalized for diabetes complications.

(AP Photo/Robert Glass)

was 87.

National Security Minister Gary Griffith said Robinson had been hospitalized for several medical conditions related to diabetes. After prolonged ill health, he died Wednesday at dawn inside a private medical center in Trinidad's capital of Port-of-Spain.

Robinson led the twin-island Caribbean country as prime minister from 1986 to 1991 and served in the largely ceremonial role of president from 1997 to 2003. He was held hostage for six days in July 1990 with several Cabinet members and opposition legislators in a failed coup attempt by 114 rebels of Jamaat al Muslimeen, a local Islamic group that drew followers mainly among poor urban blacks in Trinidad's slums. Jamaat leader Yasin Abu Bakr blamed Robinson for widespread poverty that followed the collapse of world oil prices in 1983.

When the armed insurgents invaded Parliament on July 27, 1990, they ordered Rob-

inson to call off security forces outside of Parliament. But instead, he instructed the military, "Attack with full force!" He was then beaten and shot in his right leg.

Some 24 people died during the coup attempt, the only Islamic revolt in the Western Hemisphere. The bizarre rebellion ended with a ruse: Robinson's administration promised the insurgents amnesty, then arrested them. But Trinidad's High Court eventually freed them and Bakr has never been convicted of anything.

Robinson was born in the sister island of Tobago and studied law in Britain. He returned to his Caribbean homeland in the mid-1950s and was first elected to Trinidad and Tobago's Parliament in 1961. He served as finance minister from 1961 to 1967.

He is credited with introducing the idea of a single Caribbean market and economy and helping establish the International Criminal Court. Political rival Basdeo Panday said that helping to create the Netherlands-based court was "his most significant contribution."

During a 2001 political crisis in Trinidad, Robinson broke an election tie by choosing then-opposition leader Patrick Manning as leader over Panday, the incumbent prime minister with whom he had long clashed. As president, he had the constitutional authority to resolve the election tie.

Current Prime Minister Kamla Persad-Bissessar said she started her political career under the guidance of Robinson, whom she described as "one of our nation's outstanding sons and an elder statesman."

"Mr. Robinson's passing is a deep and tragic loss for our country, but the legacy he leaves behind shall surely live on to inspire today's and tomorrow's generations," she said in a statement. In 2011, a small Tobago airport was renamed the A.N.R. International Airport. Robinson was a widower to economist Patricia Rawlins Robinson, who died in September 2009. □

## Iran:

## '50 to 60% agreement' on nuke deal

GEORGE JAHN

Associated Press

VIENNA (AP) — Iran's for-

foreign minister said Wednesday his country and six world powers are in "50 to 60 percent agreement" on the shape of a deal meant to crimp any potential Iranian attempt to build nuclear arms in exchange for an end to crippling economic sanctions.

Speaking for the six, EU foreign policy chief Catherine

from Iran's supreme leader, whose message has varied over the past months between support for the discussions and accusations of bad-faith negotiating on the part of the United States and its allies.

"Our negotiators should not accept any coercive words from the other party," Khamenei told Iranian nuclear scientists in a speech marking Iran's National Day of Nuclear Tech-

progress was made and negotiators are now looking to the next round to "bridge the gaps standing in way of a comprehensive agreement."

Iranian Foreign Minister Mohammad Javad Zarif, his country's chief negotiator, read the same statement in Farsi. He then told reporters that the two sides were in "50 to 60 percent agreement," adding he expected the tentative



European foreign policy chief Catherine Ashton and Iranian Foreign Minister Mohamad Javad Zarif, from left, arrive to address the media after closed-door nuclear talks in Vienna, Austria, Wednesday, April 9, 2014.

(AP Photo/Ronald Zak)

Ashton was less upbeat as the talks reached the halfway mark toward their informal July deadline. But she said that after several rounds of exploratory talks the two sides were now ready to bridge remaining gaps standing in the way of agreement.

The talks paused until May 13 amid stern warnings

nology. "The country's nuclear achievements can't be stopped, and no one has the right to bargain over it." Coming out of the talks, Ashton described them as "substantive and detailed." She said that "a lot of intensive work will be required to overcome the differences ahead." But Ashton suggested some

July 20 target date for a final deal to be met.

A senior U.S. administration official declined to confirm whether that assessment was accurate but said only 100 percent agreement by both sides would produce a deal. She demanded anonymity in line with State Department briefing rules. □

## Saudi Arabia: 2 more deaths from MERS

ADAM SCHRECK

Associated Press

DUBAI, United Arab Emir-

ates (AP) — Saudi health authorities said Wednesday that 11 people in the western city of Jiddah have contracted the Middle East respiratory syndrome, resulting in two recent deaths and prompting officials to temporarily shutter the emergency unit at one of the city's biggest hospitals.

Among those who tested

positive for MERS was an employee at Jiddah's King Fahd hospital. The potentially fatal disease is related to SARS and was first identified in 2012 in the Middle East, where most cases since have been diagnosed. Officials at King Fahd hospital began referring incoming patients to other medical facilities on Tuesday so the emergency ward could be thoroughly cleaned and disinfected, according to

the kingdom's health ministry. Authorities said they expected to reopen the emergency ward at the hospital within 24 hours.

A nurse at another hospital in the city had also earlier contracted the virus.

The official Saudi Press agency reported on Wednesday that three people who tested positive for the disease remain hospitalized, and that two others had contracted it had died in Jiddah province. □



## Bahamas police seek killers of British visitor

**NASSAU, Bahamas (AP)** — A British citizen visiting the Bahamas was killed in a home invasion robbery in an upscale neighborhood of Grand Bahama, authorities said Wednesday. Edgar George Dart, a 56-year-old who lived in Winnipeg, Canada, was shot and killed when three

masked intruders burst into his family's home in the island's Emerald Bay neighborhood, said Assistant Commissioner Emrick Seymour of the Royal Bahamas Police Force. Dart was visiting his mother's home when he apparently struggled with one of the assailants as they tied

up family members with duct tape during the Tuesday morning attack, Seymour said. The attackers had apparently cut phone service to the house before the attack. They fled in a gardener's van. No suspects are in custody and Seymour appealed to

the public for help. "We are right in the middle of our investigation into this situation and we are following some leads," he said. It was the sixth homicide of the year on Grand Bahama. There have been about 30 for all of the Bahamas, an island chain just off the coast of Florida. □

## Puerto Rico is probing Vieques bay darkening

**DANICA COTO**  
**Associated Press**

**SAN JUAN, Puerto Rico (AP)** — Authorities in Puerto Rico announced Wednesday they are investigating why a glowing bay that attracts thousands of tourists a year has grown dark in recent weeks.

The popular Mosquito Bay on the island of Vieques is considered one of Puerto Rico's top attractions, and government officials say they are worried about the bay's loss of bioluminescence.

Department of Natural Resources Secretary Carmen Guerrero said she is reaching out to local and international scientists to launch an investigation.

"Puerto Rico is one of the few places in the world that has bioluminescent bodies of water," she said. The bay's waters glow thanks to microscopic plankton known as dinoflagellates that emit a blue-green light through a chemical reaction when disturbed. The bay went dark in early January because of rough seas, but Guerrero said it is unclear why the glow diminished again in recent weeks.

Cristina von Essen, with Vieques-based adventure company Black Beard Sports, said the bay went dark about three weeks ago and remained in that state for about two weeks. "It caught everybody by surprise," she said. "Not just us, but all companies that run tours down here were struggling. Everybody was a little bit frustrated."

She estimated that the company has lost about 400 tourists in recent weeks as a result of the darkening bay.

The problem has angered many tourists who had already made reservations for Vieques specifically to see the bay, according to Cristobalina Velasquez, a tour guide with Abe's Snorkeling & Bio-Bay Tours.

The company has seen about a 40 percent loss in clients in recent weeks, she added. □

## Cuba probes mobile data leak in ZunZuneo case

**ANDREA RODRIGUEZ**  
**Associated Press**

**HAVANA (AP)** — Cuba's government said Wednesday it has launched a probe into how hundreds

of thousands of customer cellphone numbers fell into the hands of a U.S. government program that used them to secretly set up a mobile-based, Twitter-like social network on the island.

any international operator or entity, and that the information was obtained illegally. "An investigation is being held into how this may have gotten out," said

U.S. law and described it as "discreet," rather than covert or classified. Rep. Ileana Ros-Lehtinen, a Cuban-born Republican from Florida, called U.S.-led democracy efforts in Cuba "transparent" and "one of the most scrutinized programs in our foreign aid portfolio."

Ramos said Etecsa detected bulk messages being sent during the ZunZuneo project starting in September 2009 during a concert by Colombian singer Juanes, and again in early 2010.

The company complained to 200 foreign telecoms that had messaging agreements with Etecsa, and threatened to sever relationships if it continued.

Nonetheless ZunZuneo continued to operate until 2012 and built a base of tens of thousands of users before abruptly disappearing.

Etecsa had no idea the messages were anything other than unwanted spam, Ramos said.

It was only recently that "we learned this was more than an operator issue," he said.

The Caribbean country's government controls nearly all print, TV and radio outlets. Internet access is rare, restricted, slow and prohibitively expensive for most Cubans. □



**Students gather behind a business looking for a Internet signal for their smart phones in Havana, Cuba. Cuba's government said Wednesday it has launched a probe into how hundreds of thousands of customer cellphone numbers fell into the hands of a U.S. government program that used them to secretly set up a mobile-based, Twitter-like social network on the island.**

(AP Photo/Ramon Espinosa)

of thousands of customer cellphone numbers fell into the hands of a U.S. government program that used them to secretly set up a mobile-based, Twitter-like social network on the island.

An Associated Press inves-

tigation revealed last week that the U.S. Agency for International Development program used the data to build a subscriber base for the platform, dubbed ZunZuneo, with the idea that it could be used to stir unrest. Cuba considers such USAID programs to be subversive attempts to topple its Communist-run government. Officials told reporters that state telecom Etecsa had not provided the data to

Daniel Ramos, head of security operations for Etecsa. He did not give details on the probe's progress or any measures that may be taken.

Washington officials have defended the ZunZuneo program as consistent with

## Officials 'concerned' over hunger strike in Cuba

**PETER ORSI**  
**Associated Press**

**HAVANA (AP)** — The Cuban government said Wednesday it is concerned about a jailed U.S. government subcontractor's hunger strike, which he began last week to protest both

Havana's and Washington's handling of his case. Josefina Vidal, the Cuban Foreign Ministry's top official for U.S. affairs, said in a statement that Alan Gross, a 64-year-old from Maryland, is in good physical health. He has been serv-

ing his 15-year sentence at a military hospital in Havana.

"The Cuban government reiterates its willingness to seek, together with the U.S. government, a solution to Mr. Gross' case ... that takes into account the

humanitarian concerns of Cuba related to the case of the three Cubans from the group of the Five," her statement read.

The "Cuban Five" are intelligence agents sentenced to long prison terms in the United States. □





On their successful event:

## Aruba Marriott congratulates E-Aruba seminar organizers

**PALM BEACH** - Aruba Marriott congratulates the organizers of E-Aruba Seminar with a successful event on Saturday, April 5th held at the Renaissance Convention Center. The public was engaged and enthusiastic from start to finish by three remarkable speakers who ensured everyone left with valuable tips and information. Mark Benson Denz initiated the first E-Aruba Seminar by enlightening the public about his business journeys and his inspiration in organizing such an educative event. The speakers Richard Pollack and Ramon Ray followed with fascinating guidelines on how businesses can succeed with the proper use of digital marketing and social media. Andres Barreto closed the event with an inspiring speech on how he made his businesses successful and how entrepreneurs can succeed as well. All in all, it was a captivating event attended by a number of young professionals and business owners of all industries, looking to find the right tips to grow their ca-



reers and businesses.

Aruba Marriott is pleased to

have partnered up with E-Aruba Seminar and looks forward to the

second edition of the E-Aruba Seminar. □

## Aruba Says 'Masha Danki' to Loyal Guests!



**PALM BEACH** - Recently at the Divi Phoenix Resort, Aruba vacationers were presented with honorary titles created by the Ministry of Tourism as a token of appreciation to guest visiting Aruba for 10-and 20-consecutive years. Special friends of Aruba, enjoying ten or more annual vacations here, are given the Distinguished Visitor certificate and those with twenty consecutive years are given the Goodwill Ambassador certificate. The recent honoring was given by Aruba Tourism Authority representative Marouska Heyliger at the Divi Phoenix Resort which they call their home away from home. Honorees are Ginny and George Neuman from Pennsylvania, Margaret and Donald Wiener from New York and Kathy and Mark Smith from New York. On picture the honorees together with Pedro Vargas of the Divi Phoenix and Marouska Heyliger. □



## The Blue Lobster: Excellent Food, Good Prices and Fantastic Service!

**PALM BEACH** - The Blue Lobster Restaurant has received "The Best Lobster House of Aruba" award, plus the certificate of excellence awarded by TripAdvisor, in two consecutive years 2012 and 2013! Repeat visitors are increasing by constantly making this cozy romantic small place a "must visit" site on every trip to Aruba. The high culinary skills of its international chef has made hundreds of fans al-



Portugal, Germany, Switzerland, England, while 70% of the patrons come directly from the USA. And a great percentage are locals and from other countries of South America. A visit to the Blue Lobster Restaurant without trying the already famous Blue Lobster Cocktail or the Blue Mojito will not be a complete visit. These are must try cocktails made by their 20 years experienced bartender, and of course all

style delicious fish soup), Keri-Keri (shark meat in a delicious local seasoning), Frikendel (Homemade fish cakes prepared Aruban style) or try any of the local stews just like grandma made them from centuries ago. Good food does not need to be expensive, and guests can rest assure there will be "Good Food, Good Service and Good Prices." See you at The Blue Lobster Restaurant! □



ready and the human care and professional attention provided by the highly educated service staff are now known around the

world. This has been confirmed by our esteemed clients which are recommending their friends and families to visit The Blue



Lobster when coming to Aruba, this from countries far away like Russia, Brazil,

renown brands and liquors are readily available.

A carefully chosen wine list which will satisfy the palates of the most extreme wine connoisseurs is another good reason to visit The Blue Lobster.

The Blue Lobster Restaurant it is a "must visit" while in Aruba. To enjoy the real local flavor, authentic local food is available at noon for lunch, fresh catch of the day, sopi pisca (local



**Beauty  
On The  
Beach**

**Alexis  
Fasano**

from USA  
Guest at the  
Playa Linda  
She is on  
vacation  
having fun in.



**WINNER OF TRIP ADVISOR'S CERTIFICATE OF EXCELLENCE 2012  
Best Lobster House and International  
Cuisine's Restaurant**

**The Blue  
Lobster**  
INTERNATIONAL CUISINE & LOBSTER HOUSE  
**Phone: 586-3843**





## Loyal Guests Honored by the Aruba Tourism Authority



**PALM BEACH** - Mario and Maria Donato from Connecticut and Jordan Shanok from Minnesota were recently honored as Distinguished Visitors of Aru-

ba, due to their 10th consecutive visit to Aruba. Ms. Marouska Heyliger representing the Aruba Tourism Authority conducted the ceremony which was held

at the Playa Linda Resort. They enjoy coming back to Aruba for the Beautiful Beaches and Friendly People. □



**BONUS**  
**B I N G O**

**THURSDAY!**

**Super 4-Card BINGO starting at 1pm!**

**\$6 for 4-Card BINGO • 8 Games to Play**

**\$1,000 in Cash Prizes!**

*Additional \$500 Cash Prize in our Monthly Early Bird Drawing when you purchase your card prior to 12 noon!*

*Where Aruba goes to play!*

Open daily 10am to 4am • J.E. Irausquin Blvd #47 • 583.5000 • [www.casinoalhambra.com](http://www.casinoalhambra.com)

Must be an Alhambra Advantage member. All programs and promotions are subject to change or cancellation without prior notice.

**Alhambra**  
**CASINO AND SHOPS**



## Regulars love the Sopranos Piano bar in the Arawak Garden



**PALM BEACH** - Michelle and David Tedeshi from Rhode Island, have been coming to Aruba for more than 10 years now.

They absolutely love the island, its people, the

beaches, the food and of course Sopranos Piano bar in the Arawak Garden. Every night is party time at Sopranos where the piano players are the best and the drinks come at full speed! □



## Catch your own dinner with Driftwood!

*Motto at Driftwood Restaurant: "from the pier to your plate!"*



**ORANJESTAD** - The downtown marina is home of Driftwood Fishing Charters, the successful fisherman of the established seafood restaurant Driftwood in Oranjestad. Driftwood owner Herby

Merryweather has a love and passion for fishing. A fisherman who knows about fish, what our local waters have to offer, and what the words "fresh seafood" really mean. What Herby catches will be served in his restaurant on the same day. Herby loves to share his fishing passion with the many visitors to the island. His fleet of a 35ft. Twin Engine Bertram yacht and a 50ft. Twin Engine Post yacht, appropriately called "Driftwood I and II, is available for charters on 12 noon and from 1pm to 5pm.



Winners of Intl. LUHRS Marina Group Blue Marlin Release Tournament 2009



### Catch your own dinner

A charter includes: captain, mate all fishing equipment, bait, sodas and bottled water. On a full day charter sandwiches and snacks are also included.

You can call Herby directly at (297) 592 4040 or go to [www.driftwoodaruba.com](http://www.driftwoodaruba.com)

**Driftwood Restaurant.** This authentic Aruban seafood restaurant is located in characteristic downtown Oranjestad. Their

extended menu has been jubled by many. Driftwood offers daily specials, as well as a delicious 4-course menu for just \$25.95 **Charter deep sea fishing rates:** \$400 - 1/2 day • \$760 - full day. Rates per boat Max. 6 people. **Driftwood Restaurant** Authentic Aruban Seafood Restaurant; Klipstraat #12, Downtown Oranjestad. Tel: (297) 583 2515 [www.driftwoodaruba.com](http://www.driftwoodaruba.com) Open hours: every day, from 5pm till 10:30pm. Sunday Closed.







Venus Williams reacts during her match against Eugenie Bouchard, of Canada, during the Family Circle Cup tennis tournament in Charleston, S.C., Thursday, April 3, 2014. Associated Press

## Serena, Venus Williams not on U.S. Fed Cup roster

**WHITE PLAINS, New York (AP)** — Serena and Venus Williams are not part of the Fed Cup roster submitted by U.S. captain Mary Joe Fernandez for a World Group playoff against France on April 19-20.

Instead, Fernandez's roster announced Wednesday includes 18th-ranked Sloane Stephens, No. 42 Madison Keys, No. 49 Varvara Lepchenko and No. 57 Christina McHale. After losing at a tournament at Charleston, South Carolina, on April 1, top-ranked Serena Williams said: "I'm really just dead. I need some weeks off where I don't think about tennis and kind of regroup."

Venus Williams is ranked 32nd.

The matches will be played on the campus of Saint Louis University. The winning nation will enter the World Group in 2015 and compete for the Fed Cup title. The loser will drop down to World Group II. □



Milwaukee Brewers' Ryan Braun hits a solo home run in front of Philadelphia Phillies catcher Carlos Ruiz (51) during the fourth inning of a baseball game, Tuesday, April 8, 2014, in Philadelphia. Associated Press

## NL Capsules

# Braun hits 3 homers, Brewers beat Phillies 10-4

**The Associated Press**

**PHILADELPHIA (AP)** — Ryan Braun hit three home runs and tied a franchise record with seven RBIs to lead the Milwaukee Brewers over Philadelphia 10-4 Tuesday, spoiling the Phillies' home opener.

Coming off a three-game sweep of the World Series champion Boston Red Sox at Fenway Park, the Brewers won their fourth straight game and improved to 5-2. Kyle Lohse (1-1) allowed three runs and seven hits, walking five.

Braun connected twice off Kyle Kendrick (0-1), snapping the longest homerless drought of his career. The 2011 NL MVP came in with only three singles in 20 at-bats this season.

But Braun, who is bothered

by a right thumb injury, felt just fine, as usual, in Philadelphia. He has 10 homers and 21 RBIs in 20 career games at Citizens Bank Park.

GIANTS 7, DIAMONDBACKS 3

**SAN FRANCISCO (AP)** — Michael Morse hit a two-run single to back Tim Hudson as each made memorable home debuts with their new team, and Brandon Belt hit a two-run homer for San Francisco.

Hudson (2-0) shut down the D-backs for the second time in seven days with an eight-inning gem in his first outing at AT&T Park since agreed to a \$23 million, two-year contract in November.

Belt's drive off Trevor Cahill (0-3) gave him five homers

and the Giants a majors-leading 12.

New Giants left fielder Morse emphatically pumped his fist at first base after a third-inning single, then added a two-out double in the fifth. Belt became the first Giants player since Jose Cruz Jr. in 2003 to hit five home runs through the first eight games.

**NATIONALS 5, MARLINS 0**  
**WASHINGTON (AP)** — Gio Gonzalez threw six crisp innings to lead Washington. Gonzalez allowed three singles and two walks. He allowed one baserunner to get as far as second, and struck out five hitters. He retired his last 10 batters and is 2-0 with a 0.75 ERA.

Adam LaRoche had three hits and drove in a run off Henderson Alvarez (0-2).

Anthony Rendon went 2 for 4 with three RBIs as Washington improved to 5-2.

Miami entered an NL-best 5-2, a year after finishing with a league-high 100 losses. Led by Giancarlo Stanton, the Marlins were averaging a majors-best six runs a game, but they couldn't solve Gonzalez or four relievers.

**METS 4, BRAVES 0**  
**ATLANTA (AP)** — Bartolo Colon combined with two relievers on an eight-hitter, Ruben Tejada drove in two runs with two hits and New York beat Atlanta.

Jose Valverde loaded the bases in the ninth before Jason Heyward flied to the warning track in center field to end it.

Continued on page 19



# Scott goes for No. 1 at scene of greatest triumph

**PAUL NEWBERRY**

**AP National Writer**

**AUGUSTA, Georgia (AP)** —

Adam Scott is relishing every part of being Masters champion.

The drive up Magnolia Lane. A couple of practice rounds with his dad. Wearing the green jacket. And, certainly, the champions dinner Tuesday night.

But before anyone gets worked up about having to eat "bugs," no worries — that's just Aussie-speak for a type of lobster.

Scott went with surf-and-turf off the barbie for his Down Under-themed menu, so he doesn't expect too many complaints.

"I think they are going to be pretty happy with what I serve up," he said with a sly smile, "particularly the wine."

A year later, Scott is back at the scene of his greatest triumph, a thrilling playoff victory over Angel Cabrera that gave the 33-year-old Australian his first major championship. The breakthrough, after so many close calls and missed chances, has propelled him to the greatest run of his career, including top-five finishes at both the U.S. Open and British Open.

Scott knows he has the game to add another major title or two to his resume.



**Adam Scott, of Australia, catches a golf ball from his caddie on the driving range during a practice round for the Masters golf tournament Tuesday, April 8, 2014, in Augusta, Ga.**

**Associated Press**

He's eager to take advantage of it.

"I'm at the highest level I've ever been at," Scott said. "My window of opportunity, I really think, is right now, and I don't know when it will close. So I just have to keep going as hard as I can right now."

From the back of the room, his parents, Phil and Pam Scott, looked on proudly. After Adam was done with his interview session, they joined him on the podium for a family photo.

Phil Scott is pleased with the way his son has dealt with his increased fame.

"You can have respect for everything, from the game to the course to

you guys," the father told a small group of reporters. "You've got a choice to do it nicely or not. If you take the choice to do it nicely, I think you will have a better time."

Phil Scott, who once coached his son, got a chance to join him on the course for practice rounds Friday and Sunday. It was the thrill of a lifetime for both of them.

The elder Scott said he probably shot in the low 80s, though neither of them took the round too seriously.

Instead, they relived some of the moments from Adam's victory a year ago, from the clutch birdie putt

on the 72nd hole that led the golfer to shout "C'mon, Aussie!" to the 12-footer on the second playoff hole that gave him the green jacket.

"My dad's been coming here for all these years I've been playing, so it was nice for him to stand in the middle of the fairway rather than out on the edge," Scott said. "I think he also developed a pretty good appreciation for how good some of the guys are out here, chipping and putting around these greens."

Phil agreed.

"This place can make a fool of you," he said, "as it did to me."

Not long after Scott finished off Cabrera down at the 10th hole, the winner began thinking of what it would mean to his life. Unlike so many first-time winners who are caught off guard by their newfound fame, he had a keen appreciation for how much things would change.

Scott learned to manage his time better, dealing with his increased obligations while making sure it didn't affect the hours he needed to spend at the practice range. In addition, he eagerly relished the perks that came with being a Masters champion.

"After winning this tourna-

ment last year and everyone asking me what the best thing about it was, I always felt like there would be things in the future that would be great about coming back here for the rest of my life," Scott said. "I've got lots of those memories to look forward to. That's why this place is just so unique."

With Tiger Woods sidelined by injury, Scott has a chance to move to No. 1 for the first time in his career. He would take over the top spot by finishing no worse than a tie for third.

Of course, he's aiming to win another Masters, which would make him just the fourth player to capture back-to-back titles. The other ones to do it: Jack Nicklaus (1965-66), Nick Faldo (1989-90) and Woods (2001-02).

"I want to really get my head into playing well this week, because I think I'm in good form," Scott said.

If he does win another Masters, he'll switch up the menu for the next champions dinner.

"I would love to have served some meat pies at the cocktail hour, but it couldn't be arranged," Scott said. "Next time, if I get another chance to do it, I'd love to serve some meat pies."q



**Billy Payne, chairman of Augusta National Golf Club, speaks during a press conference before the Masters golf tournament Wednesday, April 9, 2014, in Augusta, Ga.**

**Associated Press**

## Payne leaves no doubt who calls shots at Augusta

**JIM LITKE**

**AP Sports Writer**

**AUGUSTA, Georgia (AP)** —

Eighty years after it was founded, dozens of questions remain about the murky inner workings of the Augusta National Golf Club.

There are none about who calls the shots.

Chairman Billy Payne proved that again Wednesday, tackling a wide range of issues in his annual "State of the Masters" news conference.

Since taking over from Hootie Johnson in 2006, Payne, the former 1996 Atlanta Olympic Committee CEO,

has found himself facing such hot-button issues as adding women to Augusta's membership and Tiger Woods' suitability as a role model.

This time around, the mood was decidedly lighter. Judging by the frequent smiles and nods of assent from the dozen green jackets lining the back of the room, Payne's pronouncements on the less-weighty issues of his own golf handicap and whether to replace the famed Eisenhower Tree on the 17th fairway — lost after being damaged in an ice storm — weren't likely to face

much headwind.

A reporter asked Payne whether he took the job with a "to-do" list and if so, how many items on it had been resolved.

"I had no list because I didn't know anything about the job," he said. "When I became a member of Augusta National, I had dreams of becoming a scratch golfer."

Once the laughter stopped, Payne turned to Fred Ridley, chairman of the club's competition committee, and asked, "Have I made it there yet, Fred?"

"Working on it," Ridley replied. □



## AL Capsules

# Rangers' 5-run 3rd sparks 10-7 win over Red Sox

The Associated Press

BOSTON (AP) — BOSTON

(AP) — Robinson Chirinos started a five-run third inning with his first homer of the season and the Texas Rangers won 10-7 as the Boston Red Sox hit into five double plays Tuesday night. The Red Sox scored three runs in the ninth against Joakim Soria on an RBI single by Jonny Gomes and a two-run double by David Ortiz, but Mike Napoli struck out to end the game.

Boston's five double plays were one fewer than the American League record for a nine-inning game shared by eight teams. The major league mark of seven was set by the San Francisco Giants in 1969.

All of them came against Martin Perez (1-0).

Texas won for the second time in five games as every starter reached base by the fourth inning. Boston lost its fourth game in the last five.

Chirinos' second career homer broke a scoreless tie and began an inning in which the Rangers batted around against Felix Doubront (1-0).



Texas Rangers' Shin-Soo Choo scores on a double by Prince Fielder as Boston Red Sox catcher A.J. Pierzynski waits for the ball in the third inning of a baseball game at Fenway Park in Boston, Tuesday, April 8, 2014.

ORIOLES 14, YANKEES 5  
NEW YORK (AP) — Delmon Young, Adam Jones and Matt Wieters homered as the Baltimore Orioles teed off for 20 hits, battering the New York Yankees 14-5 Tuesday.

Young and Wieters each drove in three runs, and Jones delivered one of

the Orioles' four doubles at a half-empty Yankee Stadium. Everyone in Baltimore's starting lineup got a hit and scored a run. The Orioles posted their second-highest hit total in the Bronx, eclipsed only by a 22-hit outburst in 1986. Wei-Yin Chen (1-1) weathered five innings for

the win, giving up four runs and nine hits.

Ivan Nova (1-1) was tagged for seven runs and 10 hits in 3 2-3 innings.

RAYS 1, ROYALS 0  
KANSAS CITY, Mo. (AP) — James Loney hit an RBI single with two outs in the ninth inning to lift Tampa Bay over Kansas City.

Associated Press

Rays starter Chris Archer wriggled out of two bases-loaded jams and went seven innings in an impressive pitchers' duel between top young arms. Royals rookie Yordano Ventura dazzled in his season debut, holding Tampa Bay to two hits in six shutout innings.

Loney's grounder to right scored Wil Myers, who snapped an 0-for-15 slump when he reached on an infield single to start the ninth. Myers advanced on a two-out wild pitch by Greg Holland (0-1).

Joel Peralta (1-1) struck out Danny Valencia with the bases loaded, and Grant Balfour worked the ninth for his second save.

Ventura walked none and struck out six, including Myers three times.

MARINERS 5, ANGELS 3

SEATTLE (AP) — Corey Hart hit a three-run homer and a solo shot, sending Seattle past Los Angeles in its home opener.

The Mariners became the final major league team to open at home and improved to 4-0 against the Angels this season. □

## NL Capsules

Continued from page 17

The 40-year-old Colon (1-1) was dominant through seven innings. He gave up six hits and no walks, struck out five and didn't allow more than one baserunner in any inning until the seventh as he outpitched Atlanta's Aaron Harang (1-1). Tejada scored on a wild pitch by Harang in the third and had run-scoring singles in the seventh and eighth innings.

CARDINALS 7, REDS 5

ST. LOUIS (AP) — Matt Holliday hit a go-ahead two-run double in the sixth inning that glanced off right fielder Jay Bruce's glove on the warning track and St. Louis beat Cincinnati.

Yadier Molina homered and Peter Bourjos had three hits and an RBI to help the Cardinals clinch

their 26th series win to go with three losses and two splits since 2003 against Cincinnati.

Bruce had a two-run triple in the first, Billy Hamilton's second hit of the season drove in a run and Ryan Ludwick had two RBIs for the Reds.

The Reds squandered a 4-0 second-inning lead by the bottom half of the inning, and Lance Lynn (2-0) got enough support to beat Cincinnati for the second straight time.

Trevor Rosenthal finished for his third save in three chances.

Bruce appeared to have a bead on Holliday's two-out drive with two on against Logan Ondrusek (0-1), but had to jump a bit at the last instant and the ball glanced off his glove as the Cardinals took a 6-5 lead. Bourjos added an RBI single in the seventh off J.J. Hoover.

PIRATES 7, CUBS 6

CHICAGO (AP) — Pedro Alvarez had two hits and two RBIs and Pittsburgh overcame two home runs by Starlin Castro.

Russell Martin drove in the go-ahead run on a sacrifice fly in the eighth inning for Pittsburgh and Jason Grilli closed with a perfect ninth.

Cubs right-hander Pedro Strop (0-1) walked two batters in the eighth and recorded only one out before being replaced by left-hander James Russell. Russell immediately walked Pedro Alvarez to load the bases and Martin followed with a fly ball to right field that made it 7-6.

The Cubs tied the game in the seventh against Tony Watson (1-0) on Anthony Rizzo's hit up the middle scoring Emilio Bonifacio, who went 3 for 5 and is batting .515.

INTERLEAGUE



Los Angeles Dodgers' Matt Kemp, right, leaps while greeting Dee Gordon, left, after scoring on a sacrifice fly by Justin Turner during the seventh inning of a baseball game against the Detroit Tigers in Los Angeles, Tuesday, April 8, 2014.

Associated Press

DODGERS 3, TIGERS 2, 10 innings

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Carl Crawford hit an RBI double in the 10th inning, lifting Los Angeles over Detroit.

The Tigers were down to their final out in the ninth when Victor Martinez got Max Scherzer off the hook with an RBI single against Dodgers closer Kenley

Jansen — who had just struck out two-time AL MVP Miguel Cabrera — to make it 2-2. Ian Kinsler ignited the rally with a leadoff double. Joba Chamberlain (0-1) struck out the side in the bottom of the ninth for Detroit, but walked pinch-hitter Chone Figgins to open the 10th and was replaced by Phil Coke. □



## NBA Capsules

# Nets finish off sweep of Heat, win 88-87

**MIAMI (AP)** — Joe Johnson scored 19 points, Mason Plumlee was credited with a block on LeBron James' dunk attempt in the final seconds, and the Brooklyn Nets finished off a four-game season sweep of Miami by beating the Heat 88-87 on Tuesday night.

It was the third time Brooklyn beat Miami by a single point; the other win came in double-overtime.

Marcus Thornton scored 16 points and Paul Pierce added 14 for the Nets, who became the first team in the last two years to sweep the Heat.

Miami was the only team in the league to beat every team last season and would have repeated that feat with a win Tuesday.

James had 29 points, 10 rebounds and six assists for the Heat, who remained a half-game ahead of Indiana, and one in the loss column, in the race for the No. 1 seed in the Eastern Conference. Chris Bosh scored 12 and Norris Cole added 10 for Miami.

THUNDER 107, KINGS 92  
SACRAMENTO, Calif. (AP) — Caron Butler made all six of his 3-point attempts to finish with 23 points, and Oklahoma City started the fourth quarter on a 16-0 run to pull away for the victory.



Brooklyn Nets forward Mason Plumlee (1) blocks a shot by Miami Heat forward LeBron James (6) in the final seconds of the second half of an NBA basketball game, Tuesday, April 8, 2014 in Miami. The Nets defeated the Heat 88-87.

Associated Press

Kevin Durant scored 23 points but was never needed in the final quarter, stopping his streak of scoring at least 25 points in 41 consecutive games. Serge Ibaka added 19 points and four rebounds for the Thunder, who rested Russell West-

brook ahead of Wednesday night's game at the Los Angeles Clippers. Oklahoma City (56-21) is 1½ games ahead of the Clippers (55-23) for the Western Conference's No. 2 playoff seed.

DeMarcus Cousins col-

lected 24 points and 14 rebounds, and Travis Outlaw scored 24 points in Sacramento's third straight loss.

TIMBERWOLVES 110, SPURS 91

MINNEAPOLIS (AP) — Ricky Rubio scored 23 points and Gorgui Dieng had 12 points and 15 rebounds, leading Minnesota to the win.

Kevin Love had 19 points and 12 rebounds and Corey Brewer scored 14 for the Timberwolves, who have beaten Miami and San Antonio in two of their last three games.

Kawhi Leonard had 11 points and six rebounds for the Spurs, who were playing without Tony Parker and have now lost two of three following a 19-game winning streak.

Parker has a back injury, but coach Gregg Popovich said before the game he didn't believe it was that serious.

Manu Ginobili left in the third quarter with a left calf contusion, and the Spurs were just 4 for 17 from 3-point range in a listless performance.

MAVERICKS 95, JAZZ 83

SALT LAKE CITY (AP) — Dirk Nowitzki scored 21 points on 9-of-11 shooting, and the Mavericks earned their fifth consecutive victory.

Dallas shot 56 percent from

the field and had six players score in double figures. Monta Ellis had 16 points and reserve Vince Carter added 13.

Derrick Favors scored 19 points for the Jazz, who lost for the 18th time in their last 21 games. Reserve Enes Kanter added 15 points and 19 rebounds, and Richard Jefferson had 15 points. Dallas opened the game by making 17 of 18 shots. The Mavericks shot 94.1 percent (16 of 17) from the floor in the first quarter alone.

PISTONS 102, HAWKS 95

ATLANTA (AP) — Rodney Stuckey scored 29 points, Greg Monroe and Andre Drummond each had a double-double and Detroit snapped a 10-game skid in Atlanta.

Atlanta has five games left in the regular season and a 1½-game advantage over New York for the eighth and final Eastern Conference playoff spot.

Paul Millsap had 24 points and 12 rebounds for Atlanta, which had won three of four.

Monroe finished with 21 points and 13 rebounds and Drummond had 19 points and 17 rebounds for the Pistons, who have won two straight after dropping five of six. □



University of Massachusetts basketball guard Derrick Gordon, 22, faces reporters on the school's campus, Wednesday, April 9, 2014, in Amherst, Mass.

Associated Press

**HOWARD ULMAN**  
AP Sports Writer

University of Massachusetts guard Derrick Gordon has become the first openly gay player in the top U.S.

men's college basketball division.

Gordon made the announcement in interviews with ESPN and Outsports on Wednesday. He said he

## UMass basketball player announces he's gay

gained confidence by seeing an NBA team sign Jason Collins, who became the league's first openly gay player when he joined the Brooklyn Nets this season.

Gordon was the Minutemen's fourth-leading scorer with 9.4 points per game last season, when Massachusetts reached the national college basketball tournament for the first time since 1998.

"I was living life in shame," he said in a telephone interview with The Associat-

ed Press. "It took a toll on me."

Collins made a trailblazing announcement last April when he came out in an interview with Sports Illustrated. In February, he became the first openly gay male athlete in the four major North American professional sports leagues.

Gordon said he talked with Collins several times before making his announcement. "There was a time that I didn't want to play basketball anymore and that's the worst feeling ever," he said. "Right now I'm happy.

I'm free just to live my life."

Collins tweeted Wednesday that he was "so proud" of Gordon: "Another brave young man who is going to make it easier for so many others to live an authentic life."

Michael Sam, an All-American football player at the University of Missouri, came out in February after his college career ended. He could become the first openly gay player in the NFL — he is projected as a middle-round prospect in next month's NFL draft. □



# Capitals Ovechkin nets 50th goal for fifth time

The Associated Press

**ST. LOUIS (AP)** — Alex Ovechkin became the 11th player in NHL history to score 50 or more goals in a season five times, and the Washington Capitals kept their slim playoff hopes alive by beating the slumping St. Louis Blues 4-1 on Tuesday night.

Ovechkin, who added two assists, beat Ryan Miller with a one-timer from the left circle at 17:54 of the first period for his 50th goal overall and 23rd on the power play, both league highs. It is Ovechkin's first 50-goal campaign since 2009-10, when he scored 50. His single-season high is 65 in the 2007-08 season. Nicklas Backstrom scored twice and Mikhail Grabovski added another goal for the Capitals, who have 85 points and are still on the outside of the Eastern Conference playoff picture looking in with three games remaining.

Maxim Lapierre had the only goal for St. Louis, which has lost a season-high three straight.

## FLYERS 5, PANTHERS 2

**SUNRISE, Fla. (AP)** — Claude Giroux scored two goals and the Philadelphia Flyers clinched a playoff berth by beating the Florida Panthers.

Tye McGinn, Sean Couturier and Vincent Lecavalier also scored for the Flyers and Steve Mason made 38 saves. The Flyers won their second consecutive game after losing the four previous games.

Jonathan Huberdeau and Erik Gudbranson scored for Florida and Dan Ellis stopped 22 shots. Ellis substituted for Roberto Luongo, a late scratch with an upper-body injury. The Panthers have lost six of their past seven games.

## LIGHTNING 3, MAPLE LEAFS 0

**TAMPA, Fla. (AP)** — Ondrej Palat had two goals, Anders Lindback came off the bench to make 25 saves, and the Tampa Bay Lightning ended Toronto's

playoff hopes by beating the Maple Leafs.

Tampa Bay goalie Ben Bishop left with 14:17 remaining in the first due to an undisclosed upper-body injury. He was hurt while lunging to his left and landing on his side while attempting to glove the puck. Lindback replaced Bishop, who is 37-14-7 this season for the playoff-bound Lightning. Victor Hedman had an empty-net goal late in the third for the Lightning, who trail Montreal by two points for second place in the Atlantic Division. Bishop turned aside three shots before departing.

James Reimer stopped 31 shots for the Maple Leafs, who have lost 10 of 12.

## RANGERS 4, HURRICANES 1

**NEW YORK (AP)** — Brad Richards scored two power-play goals, and the playoff-bound New York Rangers improved their chances for home-ice advantage in the first round with a victory over the Carolina Hurricanes. Richards scored in the first period to tie it and then stretched New York's lead to two goals in the second period with his 20th of the season — the 10th time he has reached the mark in the NHL. Martin St. Louis had his best game with the Rangers with three assists, and Benoit Pouliot and Derek Stepan also scored. Henrik Lundqvist made 27 saves as the Rangers beat the Hurricanes for the 11th time in 12 games.

Patrick Dwyer scored for Carolina.

## RED WINGS 4, SABRES 2

**BUFFALO, N.Y. (AP)** — Darren Helm scored the go-ahead goal 3:33 into the third period to inch the Detroit Red Wings closer to clinching a playoff berth with a win over the Buffalo Sabres.

Brendan Smith, David Legwand and Pavel Datsyuk, into an empty net, also scored for the Red Wings, and Jimmy Howard made 25 saves. Detroit moved within a point of securing one of the Eastern Confer-

ence's two wild-card playoff spots, and extending its run of postseason berths to 23 straight seasons.

The win was the 414th for Red Wings coach Mike Babcock, who moved one ahead of Jack Adams for first on the franchise list. Zemgus Girgensons scored both goals for the Sabres (21-49-9), who are already guaranteed of finishing in last place once the season ends Sunday.

## SENATORS 4, ISLANDERS 1

**UNIONDALE, N.Y. (AP)** — Jason Spezza scored twice and Ales Hemsky added an insurance goal as the Ottawa Senators topped the New York Islanders. Craig Anderson made 45 saves for the Senators, who will still miss the postseason for the first time since 2011 and just the third time since 1996. They were making their first appearance this season at Nassau Coliseum, and the Islanders won the previous two meetings in Ottawa. Matt Kassian scored an empty-net goal in the closing seconds, his first of the season.

Frans Nielsen scored the lone goal for the Islanders with his career-best 25th in the team's home finale.

## BLUE JACKETS 4, COYOTES 3, OT

**COLUMBUS, Ohio (AP)** — Ryan Johansen took a stretch pass from James Wisniewski and scored on a wrist shot at 3:33 of overtime to lead the Columbus Blue Jackets over the Phoenix Coyotes, tying a franchise record for wins.

Sergei Bobrovsky had 29 saves, Blake Comeau, Boone Jenner and Mark Letestu also had goals and Artem Anisimov added two assists for the Blue Jackets. It was their 41st victory to match their most in their 13 seasons.

Oliver Ekman-Larsson sent the game to overtime with a goal with just 14.6 seconds left in regulation, and Martin Erat and Shane Doan also had goals for the Coyotes, who have lost five in a row (0-2-3). □



Ottawa Senators' Mika Zibanejad (93) collides with New York Islanders' Cal Clutterbuck (15) during the first period of an NHL hockey game Tuesday, April 8, 2014, in Uniondale, N.Y.

Associated Press

**MEGAPLEX 8**  
caribbeancinemas.com/aruba

**APRIL 10 - 16**

**NEW THIS WEEK!**

**Rio 2**  
JESSE EISENBERG | ANNE HATHAWAY

3D VERSION  
MON - THURS 4:05 | 6:20 | 8:40  
FRI 4:05 | 6:20 | 8:40 | 11:00  
SAT 1:50 | 4:05 | 6:20 | 8:40 | 11:00  
SUN & HOL 1:50 | 4:05 | 6:20 | 8:40

3D VERSION  
MON - THURS 5:10 | 7:30  
FRI 5:10 | 7:30 | 9:50  
SAT 2:50 | 5:10 | 7:30 | 9:50  
SUN & HOL 2:50 | 5:10 | 7:30

**ON TWO SCREENS**

**MUPPETS MOST WANTED**  
RICKY GERVAIS | TY BURRELL

MON - THURS 4:00 | 6:10 | 8:40  
FRI 4:00 | 6:10 | 8:40  
SAT 3:40 | 6:10 | 8:40  
SUN & HOL 3:40 | 6:10 | 8:40

**SABOTAGE**  
ARNOLD SCHWARZENEGGER | SAM WORTHINGTON

MON - THURS 4:30 | 7:00 | 9:30  
FRI 4:30 | 7:00 | 9:30 | 12:00  
SAT 2:00 | 4:30 | 7:00 | 9:30 | 12:00  
SUN & HOL 2:00 | 4:30 | 7:00 | 9:30

**CAPTAIN AMERICA THE WINTER SOLDIER**  
CHRIS EVANS | SCARLETT JOHANSSON

2D VERSION  
MON - THURS 4:45 | 7:40  
FRI 4:45 | 7:40 | 10:35  
SAT 1:50 | 4:45 | 7:40 | 10:35  
SUN & HOL 1:50 | 4:45 | 7:40

3D VERSION  
MON - THURS 6:15 | 9:10  
FRI 6:15 | 9:10  
SAT 3:20 | 6:15 | 9:10  
SUN & HOL 3:20 | 6:15 | 9:10

**ON TWO SCREENS**

**NOAH**  
RUSSELL CROWE | JENNIFER CONNELLY

MON - THURS 5:35 | 8:30  
FRI 5:35 | 8:30 | 11:25  
SAT 2:40 | 5:35 | 8:30 | 11:25  
SUN & HOL 2:40 | 5:35 | 8:30

**DIVERGENT**  
SHAILENE WOODLEY | THEO JAMES

MON - THURS 6:00 | 9:00  
FRI 6:00 | 9:00 | 11:20  
SAT 3:00 | 6:00 | 9:00 | 11:20  
SUN & HOL 3:00 | 6:00 | 9:00

STARTING NEXT WEEK APRIL 17 | A HAUNTED HOUSE 2 • HEAVEN IS FOR REAL • BEARS

Download our NEW APP



Palm Beach Plaza | Aruba | 586-0074



# Haile Gebrselassie worried about future of athletics

ROB HARRIS  
AP Sports Writer

**LONDON (AP)** — Surveying the state of the sport he dominated for so many years, running great Haile Gebrselassie sees a bleak future.

Despite the super-star status of Usain Bolt, Gebrselassie is deeply concerned about the shortage of elite-level events with true global appeal for fans and, just as importantly, sponsors.

"Athletics has to change a little bit, bring in new ideas, new concepts — otherwise it's going to be a just a bit boring to watch," Gebrselassie said Wednesday. "I don't know how many people are interested in just watching running for two hours — maybe soccer yes, but running we have to upgrade the situation ... attract more of an audience (and give) what they like." While the awe-inspiring performances produced by Bolt at the last two Olympics have given a major boost to the sport, Gebrselassie thinks the Jamaican's mass-appeal could be masking deeper-lying issues that are not been ad-



Former marathon world record holder Ethiopia's Haile Gebrselassie, aged 40, who will be the pacemaker for the elite male runners at the London Marathon, poses for photographers at a hotel in London, Wednesday, April 9, 2014.

Associated Press

dressed.

"Many stadiums are full because of him," Gebrselassie said. "What will happen after Usain Bolt, who will be the next star? How many spectators will come not just to watch (Bolt)? If you don't have Usain Bolt in the next two, three years we will be in trouble."

Few figures in the sport have better credentials to deliver such a brutal assessment than Gebrselassie, who built his reputation as one of the most complete distance runners ever by

setting world records in the 5,000, 10,000, half marathon and marathon.

Though not pushing for a role himself, the 40-year-old Ethiopian is urging the IAAF leadership to address the lack of major track meets beyond those on the Diamond League circuit, and cross-country events where he gained vital experience in the 1990s. "There is no crisis for soccer, soccer is getting bigger, and other sports are getting bigger," Gebrselassie said. "Do you think the financial crisis is just

affecting athletics? I don't think. We have to attract the audience; we have to attract the sponsors. If the sponsors think nobody cares about athletics, who is going to sponsor you?"

It's not all about cash, though. Gebrselassie is also worried that a lack of long-distance events is making athletes aim too early for marathons, which could lead to health ramifications. Fellow Ethiopian Tsegaye Mekonnen made his marathon debut in January in Dubai at just 18 — and won. "When I heard that age I was very shocked," Gebrselassie said. "Can he win again? There's a question mark. He's killing his body; we are breaking his bones by sending him in the wrong competition."

"It's why the youngsters have to have a track, 10K (events), half marathons. For those things we have to work hard with the IAAF."

Gebrselassie is in London to pace a world-record attempt in the marathon on Sunday, and Mekonnen is among the strong field, which also includes world record-holder Wilson Kip-

sang and reigning champion Tsegaye Kebede.

To highlight the astonishment over Mekonnen's ability to challenge the elite marathon runners while still a teenager, the London Marathon official hosting Wednesday's press conference pushed him to tell everyone his age.

"Eighteen years old," the Ethiopian confirmed.

"When I started this running business I started with short distance running, but I didn't have good results on that," Mekonnen explained, through a translator, of his decision to take up marathon running. "I decided to run in Dubai. And after I got a good result in Dubai I also started intensive training for London. That was my idea."

Putting aside his concerns about Mekonnen, Gebrselassie was more upbeat about the future of the 26-mile road races.

"Marathon is really wonderful right now," he said. "When we talk about marathons it's a sport for everybody, with many participants. Marathon doesn't need to upgrade."

## Former pro wrestler Ultimate Warrior dies at 54



In this April 5, 2014 file photo provided by the WWE, James Hellwig, aka The Ultimate Warrior, speaks during the WWE Hall of Fame Induction at the Smoothie King Center in New Orleans.

Associated Press

The Associated Press

The Ultimate Warrior, one of the most colorful stars in pro wrestling history, has died, the WWE said. He was 54. The WWE said Warrior, who legally changed his name from James Hellwig to his wrestling moniker, died Tuesday. Scottsdale,

Arizona, police spokesman Sgt. Mark Clark said he collapsed while walking with his wife to their car at a hotel and was pronounced dead at a hospital.

There were no signs of foul play, Clark said. The Maricopa County Medical Examiner's Office will con-

duct an autopsy Thursday, county spokeswoman Cari Gerchick said.

Hellwig was one of pro wrestling's biggest stars in the late 1980s. He beat Hulk Hogan in a memorable match at Wrestlemania in 1990.

He was in the spotlight again earlier this week, making appearances at the latest WrestleMania in New Orleans and on "Monday Night Raw," and being inducted into the WWE Hall of fame.

"WWE is shocked and deeply saddened to learn of the passing of one of the most iconic WWE Superstars ever, The Ultimate Warrior," WWE said in a statement, adding: "We are grateful that just days ago, Warrior had the opportunity to take his rightful place in the WWE Hall of Fame."

WWE Chairman Vince Mc-

Mahon tweeted: "We are all so sad the Ultimate Warrior has passed away. Our heart is with his wife Dana and his two daughters."

The Ultimate Warrior personified the larger-than-life cartoon characters who helped skyrocket the WWE into the mainstream in the late 1980s and early 1990s. Warrior dressed in face paint, had tassels dangling from his super-sized biceps and sprinted to the ring when his theme song hit. He'd shake the ropes and grunt and howl while the crowd went wild for the popular good guy.

He made his debut with the promotion when it was known as the World Wrestling Federation in 1987 and wrestled on and off for the sports entertainment empire until 1996.

The Ultimate Warrior became the first wrestler to

defeat Hulk Hogan at WrestleMania when he used his finishing splash for the pin. He won the championship in front of 67,678 fans at Toronto's SkyDome in a match billed as "The Ultimate Challenge."

The Ultimate Warrior would defeat Randy "Macho Man" Savage the next year at WrestleMania. Savage, who died in 2011, Hogan and Warrior were all enormous personalities with gaudy costumes and memorable catchphrases. They led the WWE's transformation from a promotion running weekend arena shows and Saturday morning TV into one booking events at the largest stadiums around the world with millions watching every Monday night. More than 5.1 million viewers watched Warrior's final appearance Monday night on "Raw."



# Twitter tweaks website to attract new users

BARBARA ORTUTAY

AP Technology Writer

**NEW YORK (AP)** — As Twitter looks to broaden its appeal beyond its 241 million users, the company is introducing a redesign of profile pages that includes bigger photos, more user controls and a distinct resemblance to Facebook. "Moment by moment, your Twitter profile shows the world who you are," the company wrote in a blog post Tuesday. "Starting today, it will be even easier (and, we think, more fun) to express yourself through a new and improved Web profile."

As part of changes coming in the next few weeks, users who access Twitter via the Web will notice larger photos on their profile pages. Besides profile photos on the left corner of the page, the redesign includes a large banner photo that resembles the big rectangular cover photos on Facebook pages. Users will be able to "pin" one of their tweets to the top of the page to give others an idea of the topics they like to tweet about. In addition, tweets that receive the most interest from other users will appear slightly larger.

The more visual look is an attempt to attract people who may be intimidated by Twitter's onslaught of text filled with quirky acronyms, at-symbols and hashtags. The changes come at a time when Facebook is adding features to its site that are Twitter-like, highlighting the way the two companies are jockeying for people's time and advertisers' dollars.

Is Twitter saying a picture is worth 140 characters? Perhaps not. The new profiles don't apply to Twitter's mobile app, which is a more popular way to access the service than the website. Mobile is also where Twitter earns most of its money. EMarketer expects about 77 percent of Twitter's estimated \$1.1 billion in advertising revenue to come from mobile this year.

Even so, Twitter has acknowledged that it needs

to reach a bigger audience. CEO Dick Costolo described the effort in broad terms during the company's February earnings call with analysts.

"By bringing the content of Twitter forward and pushing the scaffolding of the language of Twitter to the background," Costolo said, "we can increase high quality interactions and make it more likely that new or casual users will find the service as indispensable as our existing core users do."

Costolo also promised more visually engaging content, of which the profile page redesign is just one example. Last fall, the company decided to make users' feeds more visual by including previews from Twitter photos and Vine videos.

Twitter's first-quarter tally of users signaled that growth is slowing on the service. The company added just 9 million new monthly users in the fourth quarter, only 1 million of which came from the U.S. It added an average of 16 million new accounts in each of the first three quarters of 2013.

Twitter said in February that it had 241 million users at the end of 2013. By comparison, Facebook boasts some 1.23 billion users, while WhatsApp, the messaging service Facebook is buying for \$19 billion, said it had 400 million active monthly users last December.

Twitter has not yet reported its first-quarter financial results, so it's hard to tell if the slowdown is a sign of trouble or just a blip. EMarketer analyst Debra Aho Williamson said in a recent report that Twitter's user base "may be growing more slowly than expected, but the social service has steadily increased its ad revenue and shown that its ads can drive engagement and interaction."

Noah Elkin, executive editor at eMarketer, said advertisers "love the engagement they get on Twitter." That said, he added that the company is still under



In this Thursday, Nov. 7, 2013 file photo, a banner with the Twitter logo hangs on the facade of the New York Stock Exchange in New York the day after the company went public.

Associated Press

pressure to grow.

The redesigned profile page, Elkin said, will likely

have a "relatively minimal impact" on Twitter's advertising revenue, "unless and

until" the company brings the new look to its mobile app. □

## Physicist wins \$1.3M tech prize for data storage

MATTI HUUHTANEN

Associated Press

**HELSINKI (AP)** — Anyone who uses large data centers, cloud services, social networks or gets music and film online can thank British-American physicist Stuart Parkin.

Parkin won the 1 million-euro (\$1.3 million) Millennium Technology Prize on Wednesday for discoveries leading to a thousand-fold increase in digital data storage on magnetic disks — findings that enabled all of the above services.

The Finnish prize foundation cited the 58-year-old consulting professor at Stanford University in California for his "pioneering contribution to the science and application of spintronic materials" which it said have made "our contemporary online world largely possible."

Spintronics relies on the magnetic spin of electrons rather than their charge to store bits.

"(It) changed the world by allowing storage of all knowledge created since the beginning of time," Parkin told The Associated



This photo made available by the Technology Academy Finland, TAF, shows Professor Stuart Parkin in Stanford, United States, in March 2014.

Associated Press

Press, adding he was "honored and surprised" to win the prize.

The physicist said future spintronic discoveries will further increase the speed and size of memory storage, replacing huge data centers with smaller ones that have higher storage capacities within five to 10 years.

"It will be a million times faster than disk drives and a hundred times cheaper than conventional memories," Parkin said in a telephone interview from Halle, Germany, where he was just appointed director of

the Max Planck Institute of Microstructure Physics.

The Millennium Technology Prize, which began in 2004, is awarded every two years by the Technology Academy Finland, an independent foundation, for "technological innovations that significantly improve the quality of people's lives."

Previous winners include Britain's Tim Berners-Lee for inventing the World Wide Web, Japanese Shuji Nakamura for inventions in laser technology and LED lighting and ethical stem cell pioneer Shinya Yamanaka, also from Japan. □



# Stocks rally on Fed minutes, earnings news

**KEN SWEET**

**AP Markets Writer**

**NEW YORK (AP)** — Once again, it was the Federal Reserve to the rescue for the stock market.

Major U.S. indexes rose broadly Wednesday, helped by a report out of the nation's central bank that showed Fed policymakers want to be absolutely certain the U.S. economy had recovered before

risky names. Biotechnology and technology stocks, beaten down over the past week, were among the biggest gainers.

Wednesday's trading had one broad theme: risk on. Investors sold utility and telecommunications stocks — which are usually less volatile, rich-dividend companies — and piled into areas that typically benefit from a growing economy:

index jumped 20.22 points, or 1.1 percent, to 1,872.18 and the technology-heavy Nasdaq composite rose the most, up 70.91 points, or 1.7 percent, to 4,183.90. Facebook rose the most in the S&P 500, jumping 7.3 percent, followed closely by biotech company Vertex Pharmaceuticals, up 7 percent.

Other names that saw renewed investor interest

percent. Investors closely watch the "Dow Transports," as the index is nicknamed, on the theory that a growing economy will mean companies will have to ship more products, increasing the profits of transportation companies like airlines, railroads and trucking companies.

At their March policy meeting, Fed policymakers debated over when the bank should start raising interest rates.

Traditionally the Fed's main policy tool for regulating the U.S. economy, short-term rates have been near zero since 2008 in an effort to encourage borrowing and economic growth, all of which is good for stocks. Now that the economy has mostly recovered from the recession, an increasing number of policymakers believe it's time for the Fed to start raising rates. The question is when.

"We know higher interest rates are coming, but we don't know exactly when, whether it's 2015 or 2016," said Tom di Galoma, head of fixed income rates at ED&F MAN Capital Markets. Investors always keep a close eye on the Fed, but they're particularly sensitive these days because the central bank is in the process of winding down its economic stimulus policies. Investors worry that the bank might act too quickly and choke off the economic recovery. □

## Morgan Stanley slashes price target for GM

**The Associated Press**

General Motors Co., which has been struggling with the impact of its massive ignition switch recall, took another hit Wednesday when a Morgan Stanley analyst said the company may fall behind in a major industry shift.

Analyst Adam Jonas said that the industry is entering a period of significant technological change, brought on by the potential of electronic and self-driving vehicles. The rules for what it takes to be a successful car company are changing, which he says could hurt a number of companies that can't keep up. Jonas also noted that GM faces challenges in a slowing US market and changing global markets. The analyst lowered his earnings estimates to well-below market consensus and dropped his price target on GM's stock to \$33 from \$49. He gave the U.S. automaker's stock an "Underweight" rating. Jonas said that there are many improvements at the new GM but the stock is "cheap for a reason."

Newer, nimbler companies like Tesla Motors, he argues, have an advantage because their pick of engineers to help innovate. Tesla also threatens to become a tougher competitor as it ramps up its planned battery factory. Shares of General Motors fell 2 percent to \$33.82 by midday.

GM said in a statement that it will continue to dedicate itself to "building the world's best vehicles, satisfying our customers and generating solid business results over the long haul." The analyst also lowered his earnings estimates for Ford Motor Co. Wednesday and reduced his target price on the stock to \$17 from \$20, noting slower gains overseas and increased competition in the US.

Shares of Ford, which could not be reached for a comment, fell 19 cents to \$15.91 amid a broader market uptick. □



Traders John Yaccarine, left, and John Santiago work on the floor of the New York Stock Exchange. Major U.S. indexes rose broadly Wednesday, helped by a report out of the nation's central bank that showed Fed policymakers want to be absolutely certain the U.S. economy had recovered before starting to raise interest rates.

(AP Photo/Richard Drew)

starting to raise interest rates.

Confident that the Fed won't be raising rates until sometime next year, investors once again embraced some of the market's more

materials makers, industrial companies and technology stocks.

The Dow Jones industrial average rose 181.04 points, or 1.1 percent, to 16,437.18. The Standard & Poor's 500

were biotech companies Boston Scientific, Biogen and Celgene and in technology, Priceline, Red Hat and ETrade.

The Dow Jones Transportation Average jumped 1.6

## Oil rises above \$103 a barrel on Ukraine unrest

**The Associated Press**

**NEW YORK (AP)** — The price of oil rose to a five-week high Wednesday amid unrest in eastern Ukraine, even as a report showed a large rise in U.S. crude oil supplies.

Benchmark U.S. crude oil for May delivery gained \$1.04 to close at \$103.60 on the New York Mercantile Exchange. The contract gained \$2.12 on Tuesday. It last closed above \$103 on March 4.

Brent crude, used to set prices for international oil varieties, rose 31 cents to \$107.98 on the ICE Futures

exchange in London.

Traders are uneasy about the potential for disruption of supplies due to instability in eastern Ukraine and more sanctions on Russia, a crucial supplier of oil and natural gas to Europe. Pro-Russian separatists have seized government buildings in several cities in Ukraine's industrial east in the aftermath of Russia's annexation of Crimea.

Meanwhile, the announced reopening of four Libyan export terminals could turn out to be a drawn-out process, meaning it is unlikely to boost sup-

plies imminently, analysts concluded.

Oil rose despite a report of surging U.S. crude supplies. The Energy Department's Energy Information Administration reported that oil supplies rose by 4 million barrels last week. A survey of analysts by Platts, the energy information arm of McGraw-Hill Cos., had predicted a rise of 2.5 million barrels. Jim Ritterbusch, president of energy consultancy Ritterbusch and Associates, wrote in a letter to clients that the one positive from the report was a decline of 5.2 million bar-

rels in gasoline supplies. Still, he thinks the overall supply numbers signal lower oil prices. "We have much difficulty building a case for advances beyond this level. US crude stocks continue to mount as a result of rapidly rising domestic production," he wrote.

In other energy futures trading in New York:

— Wholesale gasoline added 3 cents to \$3.01 a gallon.

— Natural gas rose 5 cents to \$4.59 per 1,000 cubic feet.

— Heating oil gained 2 cents to \$2.95 a gallon. □



## HP to pay \$108M to end international graft inquiry

**NEW YORK (AP)** — Hewlett-Packard will pay the U.S. government \$108 million to settle charges that former employees paid bribes to officials in Russia, Mexico and Poland.

The SEC says an HP division in Russia paid \$2 million to make sure the company re-

tained a contract with the federal prosecutor's office there. A Mexican subsidiary paid \$1 million to secure a software sale to the country's state-owned oil company, while \$600,000 in gifts and bribes were paid to a Polish government official to win contracts with the

national police agency. The SEC says each scheme lasted for years, and that HP's internal controls weren't strong enough to stop the illegal payments. The U.S. Department of Justice filed criminal charges against the company, and the Securities and Ex-

change Commission filed civil charges. The settlement payments include fines and a return of the profits the company made from the deals. The payments will be made to the Justice Department, the SEC, and the Internal Revenue Service.

HP's general counsel, John Schultz, said the misconduct was limited to a small number of people who are no longer with the company. Shares of Hewlett-Packard Co., which is based in Palo Alto, California, rose 14 cents to \$32.59 in afternoon trading.

## P & G selling pet food brands to Mars for \$2.9B

**MAE ANDERSON**  
**AP Business Writer**

**MCLEAN, Virginia (AP)** — Procter & Gamble is crying uncle on the edible business so it can focus on its core brands like Tide detergent and Pampers diapers. The world's biggest consumer products maker is selling 80 percent of its pet food business to Mars for \$2.9 billion as it tries to shed less profitable brands and focus on improving its bottom line. Pet food has been a weak spot in the company's vast portfolio.

Brands included in the deal include Iams, Eukanuba and Natura in North America, Latin America and certain other countries. The only business not included is in European Union countries. P&G is developing alternate plans to sell its pet care business in those mar-

kets.

"This is one of those businesses for a long time they've been signaling they want to sell," said Bernstein analyst Ali Dibadj. "It has been underperforming, and they didn't have the willingness to invest in it, given it was effectively a non-core business."

If P&G sells the 20 percent remaining stake of the business in the future, that will mean the end of its decades in consumable categories. Under CEO A.G. Lafley's first bout as CEO, from 2000 to 2009, the company sold off most of its food business, including Jif peanut butter, Folgers and Crisco.

More recently, after Robert Niblock came aboard as CEO, the company sold off its Pringles brand to Kellogg Co. for \$2.7 billion in 2012.

Since Lafley returned as CEO last year, he has said the company will focus on its most profitable core categories. "In our view, this large divestiture is represen-

tative of P&G's appropriately renewed focus on its core and desire to improve execution and productivity," said Bernstein's Dibadj. Mars Inc., which is better

known for its candy brands, already owns pet care brands such as Pedigree, Whiskas, Banfield and Royal Canin.

The privately held company based in McLean, Virginia, said that the brands it is getting from P&G will complement the existing brands in its growing pet care business.

Cincinnati-based P&G said that its fiscal 2014 core earnings per share growth rate guidance will not be changed. It anticipates that the deal with Mars won't have a material impact on its fiscal 2015 results.

The transaction is set to close during the second half of the year.

Shares of P&G rose 34 cents to \$81.69 in midday trading. Its shares had been little changed so far this year.



Procter & Gamble is selling 80 percent of its pet food business to Mars for \$2.9 billion as it tries to shed less profitable brands and focus on improving its bottom line.

(Handout Photo)

## SEC fines Drugstore giant CVS Caremark \$20m

**Beth Healy**  
**© 2013 The Boston Globe**

Drugstore giant CVS Caremark Corp. has agreed to pay \$20 million to settle charges brought by federal securities regulators that it misled investors in 2009 and committed accounting violations. The Securities and Exchange Commission also barred CVS's controller at the time from serving as an accountant at a publicly traded company for at least a year. The regulator held him responsible for an improper accounting adjustment that resulted in overstating the company's earnings that year.

According to the SEC's complaint, filed in federal court in Rhode Island, CVS fraudulently omitted from a \$1.5 billion bond offering

document in 2009 that it had recently lost significant Medicare Part D and contract revenues in its pharmacy benefits business. When CVS eventually revealed the full extent of the setbacks on Nov. 5, 2009, its stock price fell 20 percent in a day, the SEC said.

In addition, the SEC alleged that in the third quarter of 2009, CVS "dramatically and without public disclosure" changed its accounting for 525 Longs drugstores it had acquired the prior year.

By reducing the value of property in the Longs stores from \$189 million to zero, CVS was able to post a small gain in earnings for the quarter, instead of a drop, according to the complaint, filed in fed-

eral court. CVS is based in Woonsocket, R.I.

CVS neither admitted nor denied the SEC's charges. "This matter is now fully resolved for the company and individuals," CVS said in a statement Tuesday. The company said it had already announced the pending settlement to shareholders, last August, and that the final resolution would not require a restatement of earnings.

The controller who oversaw the earnings overstatement was Laird Daniels, 44, of North Attleborough, the SEC said. Daniels, according to the SEC, said the accounting scheme turned the acquisition of the Longs drugstores from a "bad guy" into a "good guy." Daniels would rise through

the ranks of the company, becoming chief accounting officer in 2010, responsible for all the financials at CVS. He remains with the company, CVS said, but not in an accounting role, as senior vice president for international operations and business development. Daniels agreed to settle the administrative case against him by paying a \$75,000 civil penalty. His lawyer did not respond to a request for comment.

"The accounting standards are designed to provide the public with a fair and consistent measure of public company performance," Paul Levenson, director of the SEC's Boston Regional Office, in said a statement. "Instead, CVS and Daniels used improper accounting tactics to give investors a misleading picture of the company's retail pharmacy earnings."

CVS shares closed at \$73.18, down 65 cents.

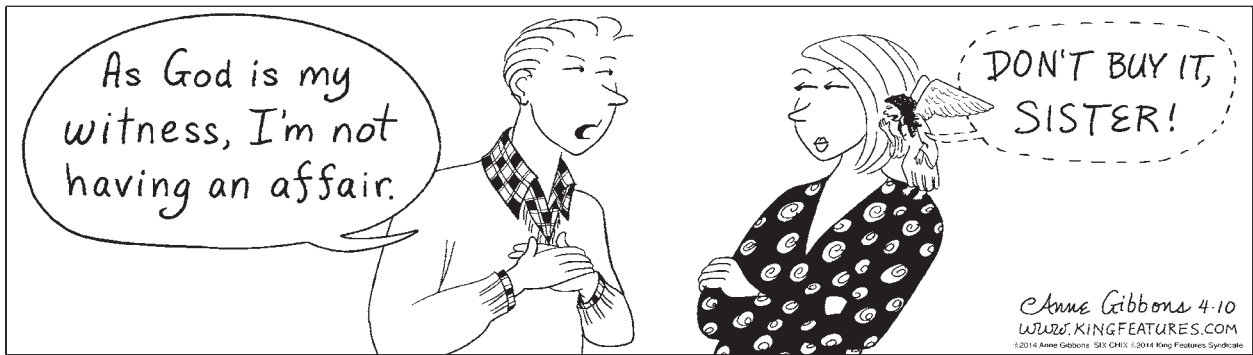




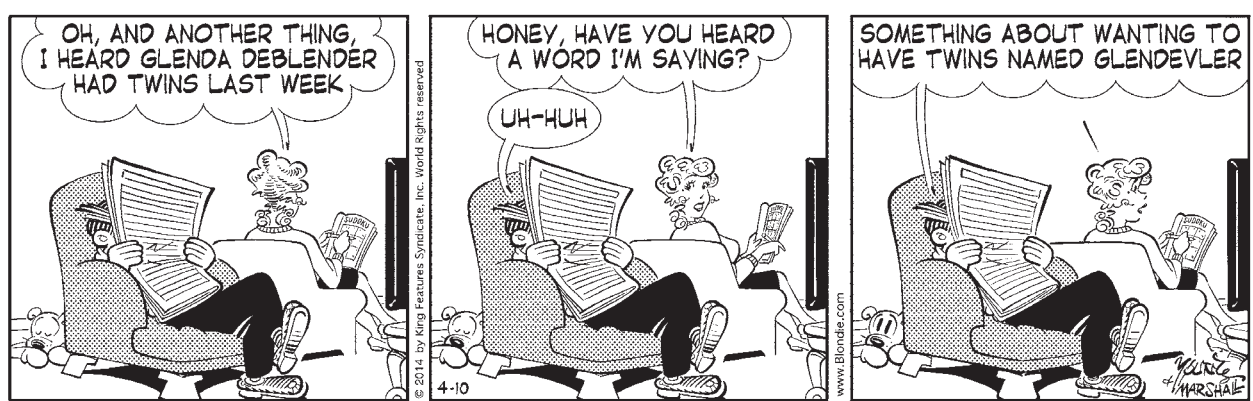
Mutts



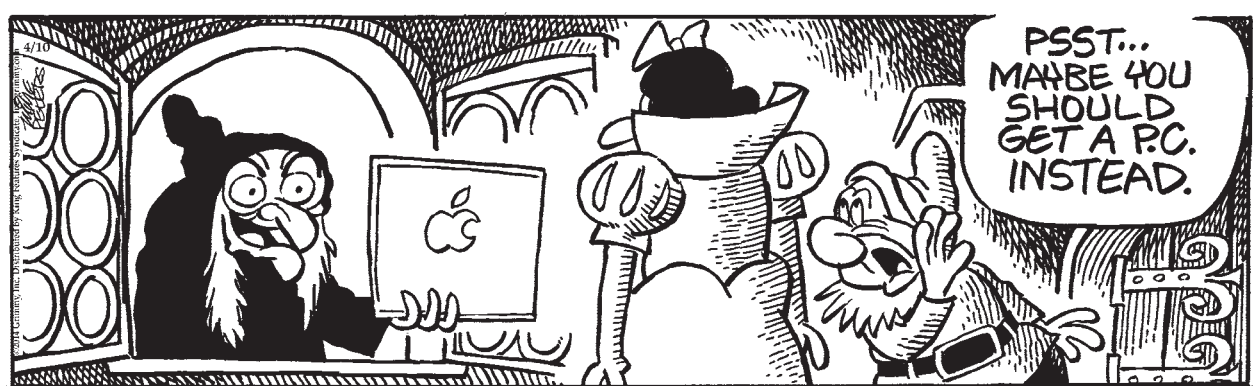
6 Chix



Blondie



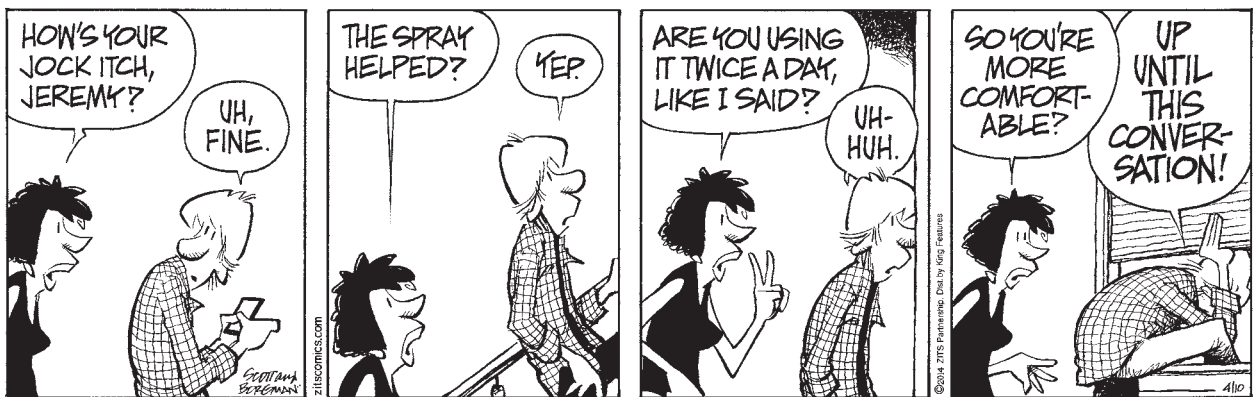
Mother Goose & Grimm



Baby Blues



Zits



Conceptis Sudoku

9			8		4		5
		2				7	
							8
		7			1	2	
	6		7		2		3
		1	3			9	
1							
	5				6		
8		9		6			4

Difficulty Level ★★★ 4/10

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Sunday.

Yesterday's puzzle answer

4	9	2	7	1	6	8	5	3
6	8	3	2	5	4	1	9	7
5	7	1	3	8	9	2	6	4
1	6	5	9	3	7	4	8	2
8	2	4	1	6	5	3	7	9
9	3	7	8	4	2	5	1	6
7	5	9	4	2	1	6	3	8
3	4	6	5	9	8	7	2	1
2	1	8	6	7	3	9	4	5

ACROSS

- Group of cattle
- Scrapbook
- Anka or Hogan
- Finished; done
- Stop
- Meanie
- Greasy
- Uprisings
- Common ailment
- Area \_\_; phone number's start
- Feeling of anxiety
- Elegance; style
- Small insect
- Oscar hopefuls
- Visitors
- Uncouth
- Labors
- Scarlet or ruby
- Melody
- Nickname for New Zealanders
- Output from Mt. Vesuvius
- 1/60 of a min.
- \_\_ have the foggiest; was clueless
- Cave excavator
- Official emissary
- "Alice \_\_ Live Here Anymore"
- Frothy drink
- Dawn
- Angry look
- Writing table
- \_\_ Vegas, NV
- One who signs up
- Bondsman's offering
- Singles
- Not as good
- Take apart
- Take a bath
- Proprietor
- "\_\_ on it!"; cry to a slowpoke

DOWN

- Horse's foot
- Wickedness
- Unwillingness
- No longer wet
- Come \_\_; find
- City in England
- "I Got You \_\_"; Sonny & Cher signature song
- Utilize
- Singer Tormé
- \_\_ out; directs attention to
- Very eager
- Fancy vases
- In case
- Narrow paths
- Automobiles
- Suffer defeat
- Black-and-white seabirds
- \_\_ up; misbehaves
- Sadistic
- Mental courage
- Dig up, as a tree, and put elsewhere
- Three and four
- Broad
- Possess
- Move suddenly

Created by Jacqueline E. Mathews 4/10/14

Wednesday's Puzzle Solved

GUY	AFTER	HEFT
ATOP	BRIDE	AWRY
PAGE	LODGE	SEEK
HALLOWEEN	TREE	
LION	TOE	
ESTEEM	CLEANSER	
GNATS	SHARK	TAU
YENS	BOOTS	SIGN
PEG	LOOSE	LINEN
TROMBONE	POETRY	
ASK	TABS	
SMOG	CIGARETTE	
PAIN	ABATE	ARTS
IDLE	SEVEN	SACK
NEST	EXERT	PHI

(c) 2014 Tribune Content Agency, LLC All Rights Reserved. 4/10/14

37 Windy day toy	47 Get larger
38 In __ of; as a substitute for	48 Singer Horne
40 Valleys	49 Eras
41 Monastery man	50 Mend socks
43 Way too colorful	52 Assistant
44 Housecoat	53 Supper in a sty
46 Good judgment	55 Afternoon hour
	56 Use an oar
	57 Public vehicle



## Dems criticize GOP-led Benghazi probe

**WASHINGTON (AP)** — House Democrats on Wednesday demanded an end to a Republican-led investigation into the deadly attack on the U.S. diplomatic mission in Benghazi, Libya, calling the probe a partisan "witch hunt." Reps. Adam Smith, the top Democrat on the House Armed Services Committee, and Elijah Cummings, the top Democrat on the House Oversight and Government Reform Committee, said the multiple inquiries and reports have answered the questions surrounding the Sept. 11, 2012, assault. Four Americans, including U.S. Ambassador Chris Stevens, were killed. Republicans have accused the Obama administration of trying to mis-

lead the American people about an act of terrorism in the final weeks before the November presidential election. Nineteen months after the attack, Republicans are throwing "as much mud against the wall in hope something sticks," Smith said. "It is time to get past the Benghazi witch hunt." Republicans, who control the House, insist there are unresolved issues and they have a responsibility to fulfill their oversight role, a point underscored by Speaker John Boehner, a Republican, this week. Cummings and Smith spoke shortly before the House committees planned to interview retired Army Gen. Carter Ham, who headed U.S. Africa Command on the night of the attack. □

## FOR SALE



### Safir 9

Beautiful brand new property with guest apartment and swimming pool situated in Safir, just minutes from Palm Beach. Built on 629m<sup>2</sup> of land. **Layout:** Luxury kitchen, spacious A/C living room with sliding doors to the covered porch and yard. 3 inverter A/C bedrooms and 2 bathrooms.

**US\$ 476.966,-**

**Century 21**  
Best & Solid Real Estate

Palm Beach 4-G  
Tel.: 586 4242  
www.arubahouses.com

# Classifieds

### Red Hot Weeks Resales

we rent, sell and buy  
Free listings, free information,  
28 years experience.  
More info  
Call: (297) 562-0712  
johnnypaesch@gmail.com

201728

### TIME SHARE FOR RENT/SALE

#### Aruba Beach Club

May 10 to 17 wk 19, superior room 157, 575. or purchase \$2,300 and Casa del Mar one bdr wk 29, rm 1326, July 19 to 26. 675 Rent or buy \$2,500 e-mail: [rmwjmwa@aol.com](mailto:rmwjmwa@aol.com) or US 508 651 0016

201735

### FOR RENT

#### 1 Bedroom Apt. fully furnished

near the Airport, Wayaca Res. Inclusive: gas, cable, water, exclusive electricity. Must not be afraid a dogs. Afls. 1,100 p/m + 1 month deposit. Call: 592-9966

201720

### Red Hot Weeks Resales Renaissance Suites

1 bdr wk 13 room #2521 pool / ocean view \$9500 Divi Village Studio wk 13 room 6107 25 weeks remain on contract \$5K More info call: (297) 562-0712 johnnypaesch@gmail.com

201728

### Professional Massage Miracle Hands!

Sport massage, relaxing massage reflexology full body. Hotel + domestic services From 7 am to 9 pm Everyday, call 740-0677

201733

### Red Hot Weeks Resales

#### La Cabana BRC

1 Bedroom wk 13 room #342A 1 Bedroom wk 14 room #340C (SATCheck in) \$8500 each. pool/ocean view Call: (297) 562-0712 johnnypaesch@gmail.com

201728

### FOR SALE

#### Condo in Gold Coast

Everything's included in this 2 Br 2 ½ bath unit check it out now at [www.arubarental.info](http://www.arubarental.info) or call 562-0735 free pick up

201703

### TIME SHARE FOR SALE

#### 1 br Divi Links

1 br , sleeps 4, Blding E floating week May to Dec, \$1500 for quick sale. Local 583-8000 ext. 2022 until April 4th then ext 2010 e-mail: [bernieandsally@comcast.net](mailto:bernieandsally@comcast.net)

201595

### Red Hot Weeks Resales

#### Marriott Ocean Club

2 bedroom, Platinum Ocean Front \$ right on the palm Beach \$30K Marriott Suft Club 2 Bedroom Platinum Ocean View, right on the palm Beach \$16K 2 Bedroom Platinum Garden view \$15K. More info call: (297)562-0712. johnnypaesch@gmail.com

201728

### Red Hot Weeks Resales Renaissance Suites

1 bedroom deluxe top floor corner unit ocean front wk 14 and 15 \$20K both weeks More info call: (297) 562-0712 johnnypaesch@gmail.com

201728

### Red Hot Weeks Resales

#### Divi Phoenix

2 bedroom, 2 bath wk 13 room 306 right on the Palm Beach in the Villas (with 22 weeks remain on contract + 9 can be accelerated) maintenance fee \$1238 Price: \$13.500. Call: (297) 562-0712 johnnypaesch@gmail.com

201728

### Red Hot Weeks Resales Occidental Grand

Studio wk 2/17 Royal Grand \$10K 1 bdr deluxe ocean view \$14K 2 bdr ocean front \$30K 3 bdr ocean front \$35K Optional all inclusive More info call: (297) 562-0712 johnnypaesch@gmail.com

201728

## DOCTOR ON DUTY Oranjestad



Dr. Jones

## EMERGENCIA 911



POLIS	100
POLIS	581-1100
ORANJESTAD	582-4000
NOORD	587-0009
STA. CRUZ	585-4710
SAVANETA	584-7000
SAN NICOLAS	584-5000
FIRE DEPT.	115
FIRE DEPT.	582-1108
POLIS TIPLINE	11141
HOSPITAL	527-4000
AMBULANCE	582-1234
SAN NICOLAS	
AMBULANCE	584-5050

## PHARMACY

O'STAD: Paradera Tel: 588-6638  
S. NICOLAS: Aloe Tel: 584-4606

INFORMATION	118
SETAR	582-2116
TAXI	582-5900
TAXI-TAS	587-5900
PROF. TAXI	588-0035
TAXI D.T.S.	587-2300
SERVICE ARUBA	583-3232

## CRUISESHIP

### Apr. 10 Zuiderdam

Aruba Aiport	524-2424
American Airline	582-2700
Avianca	588-0059
Dutch Antilles	588-1900
Insel Air	588-9314
Jet Blue	588-2244
Spirit Airlines	582-7117
Tiara Air	588-4272
Venezolana	583-7674

### FOUNDATION FELLOWSHIP CLINIC

Tel: 584-6440  
Alcoholism & Drug Addiction, Anonymity guaranteed

### FUNDACION

#### Anti-Droga

Aruba  
(FADA) Tel: 583-2999

### FUNDACION

#### Respetami

Tel: 582-4433

### Diabetic Foundation

Arubano

Tel: 583-3808

### Narcotics Anonymous

Tel: 583-8989

### Foundation Amor

pa Prohimo

Tel: 583-3345 /586-6976

### Women in Difficulties

Foundation

Tel: 583-5400

### Bloodbank Aruba

Tel: 587-0002

**TODAY**  
ARUBA'S ENGLISH NEWS LEADER AND THE BEST PART OF YOUR DAY

**BONDIA**  
POOR DAY NO BONDIA

## How to reach us!

**Downtown**

# ARUBA

**DI NOS E TA!**



# Swiss unveil new solar plane for global flight

**JOHN HEILPRIN**  
**Associated Press**

**PAYERNE, Switzerland (AP)**

—The Swiss-made airplane built for the first round-the-world solar flight has wings longer than a Boeing 747 jumbo jet yet weighs only about as much as a large car.

The Solar Impulse 2, unveiled to the world Wednesday at Switzerland's Payerne Air Force Base, is a bigger and better version of the single-seater prototype that first took flight five years ago. The original plane demonstrated that a solar-powered plane can fly through the night, hop from Europe to Africa and cross the width of the United States.

But its successor needs to be able to stay in the air far longer, because the pilots expect the lumbering aircraft to take at least five days and five nights to cross the Pacific and Atlantic oceans on its journey around the globe next year.

The new version can theoretically stay airborne indefinitely, according to Bertrand Piccard and Andre Borschberg, who founded the Solar Impulse project over a decade ago. Piccard and Borschberg, who will pilot the plane, admit that now they are the weakest link. To help them, the plane has an autopilot function, a toilet, a comfortable

business-class seat and enough space in the ergonomic cockpit for the pilot to lie down and either exercise a little bit, or get some rest.

"I mean, the airplane can fly a month. The question is, What can the pilot do?" Borschberg said in an Associated Press interview.

because of mechanical problems.

Compared to its predecessor, Solar Impulse 2 has better batteries for storing energy soaked up from the sun by the roughly 17,200 solar cells that cover the massive wings, which at 72 meters (236 feet) are equal to those of

num speed of 140 kilometers per hour (87 mph) means it will have to stay in the air for several days in a row during the long transoceanic legs.

"I think we're going to be in this cockpit being aware of the privilege it is to fly in the first and only airplane that can stay in the air for-

told AP. It can't fly in thunderstorms, but because it has no fuel restrictions the pilots can more easily wait out bad weather.

Borschberg said the pilots are training to fly long periods in a flight simulator, then resting for very short periods, using yoga, meditation, and breathing techniques. In simulations the pilots also are experimenting, he said, with flying four days and sleeping just two hours a day, split into 20-minute stages.

"It's learning how do I feel, how do I react when I am too tired? It's an exploration of oneself at the same time," he said.

The solitary nature of the flight could be a problem. But adding a second seat would have meant adding too much weight to the plane because another parachute and more oxygen, water and food also would have been needed.

The purpose of the round-the-world flight is to showcase cutting-edge renewable technologies developed by some 80 companies involved in the project. The plane is so energy efficient, Piccard said, that if its various technologies were deployed elsewhere the world could halve its energy use in transportation, construction, housing, heating and cooling, and lighting.

"What we really wanted to demonstrate is how many incredible things we can make with renewable energies, with clean technologies," he said. "Because so often we believe that clean technologies is a limit, for comfort, for mobility, for prosperity. And it's the opposite." □



Solar Impulse's CEO and pilot Andre Borschberg, right, and Solar Impulse's founder, chairman and pilot Bertrand Piccard, left, shake hands in front of the new experimental aircraft "Solar Impulse 2", during the official presentation at the airbase in Payerne, Switzerland, Wednesday, April 9, 2014.

"So we have a sustainable airplane in terms of energy; we need to develop a sustainable pilot now." American businessman and adventurer Steve Fossett completed the longest nonstop flight in aviation history in 2006, flying 26,389 miles in about 76 hours but stopping early

the largest passenger airplanes.

The wingspan, in fact, is eight meters longer than the first prototype — longer even than the wings of a Boeing 747 — but the entire airplane still weighs only 2.3 metric tons (2.54 tons), about the same as a family vehicle. To maintain its weight budget, the materials in the updated plane are lighter than before, and it has more efficient electric motors.

That's important, because while the journey will be broken up into several stages, the aircraft's maxi-

ever," Piccard told AP.

Borschberg said the trip next year would take about 20 flying days, spread over three months. The pilots said they wanted to unveil the plane now because they just finished building it and will test it during May and June.

The first plane needed perfect weather each day to recharge the battery, and it was smaller and not built to be as trouble-free.

The new plane can cross small cloud layers, and "if it's partly cloudy during the day we can cope with that as well," Borschberg



**La Vida Loca**

**Call Now**  
**741-8861**

*Where dreams come true*

Massage & Escort services

**BEAUTIFUL**

**LATIN**

**WOMEN**

*for adults*

Sweet and Sensual

Service 24/7



**Honey Dolls 24/7**

Massage and escort service

**Beautiful Latin Girls**

Pick-up & Delivery

Serving Men - Couple - Women - All Genders

**Red Light Tour**

Bachelor Party Specialized, the best in the Caribbean

**Call: 565-9535**



## Amy Poehler and brother Greg team on new comedy

**PASADENA, California (AP)** — Another Poehler sibling is bringing his comedy to television.

Greg Poehler, whose sister Amy stars on NBC's "Parks and Recreation," stars in "Welcome to Sweden," debuting July 10 on the same network.

He plays an accountant who follows his girlfriend back to her native Sweden despite having no job, friends or any idea what he's getting into.

Poehler also created, wrote and serves as executive producer of the show based on his own life and shot mainly in Sweden. Amy Poehler, Will Ferrell, Aubrey Plaza and Gene Simmons make guest appearances as



This photo released by NBC shows Amy Poehler, left, and Greg Poehler, from the new TV series, "Welcome to Sweden" during NBCUniversal Summer Press Day on Tuesday, April 8, 2014, in Pasadena, Calif. Associated Press

themselves.

The show debuted in Sweden three weeks ago, drawing more than 2 million viewers. Greg Poehler says it has already been

picked up for a second season and he hopes it does just as well in the U.S. Amy Poehler is an executive producer on the show. □

## Pineda plans solo album, but not leaving Journey

**TERESA CEROJANO Associated Press**

**MANILA, Philippines (AP)** — Arnel Pineda says he's been putting together an album of his own compositions in his own voice to release this year, but he quashed rumors that he's gearing up to leave the American rock band Journey. The Filipino singer and Journey lead vocalist said he will stay as long as the band needs him. Pineda also dismissed talk of a possible band reunion with former lead singer Steve Perry.

The singer spoke in an interview Tuesday during the launch of his version of the song "Charity" in the animated children's music video "Cha-Ching" on Cartoon Network.

The song about donating money or time to those in need can be purchased from iTunes to benefit Typhoon Haiyan victims in the Philippines.

The singer has been involved in charity projects in the Philippines. Having risen from poverty, he said it was his obligation to help those who struggle with dif-



In this March 2, 2009 file photo, Filipino singer-songwriter Arnel Pineda, center, the lead vocalist of American rock band "Journey" smiles beside bandmates Neal Schon, left, and Deen Castronovo, right, during a press conference at a mall in suburban Quezon City, north of Manila, Philippines. Associated Press

ficulties he experienced.

Pineda, now 46, was once a homeless teenager in Manila who at 15 started singing professionally with small bands. He found success after Journey guitarist Neal Schon discovered him in 2007 on YouTube singing hits of Perry and sounding strikingly like him. "Even though I am still with (Journey) and we are touring, I am also working on my original materials and I am also recording them," Pineda said, adding he aims to launch the album

this year.

This year, Journey is touring the United States and Canada, and next year will tour South America.

On rumors of a Journey reunion with Perry, he said he has not heard any talk of that.

If that happens, he said "I'd be more than happy to give way," saying it would allow him more time with his family.

But Pineda said: "As long as they need me I will be there, I'm never gonna quit on them." □

## Network plans marathon telecast of 'The Simpsons'



In this undated publicity photo released by Fox, characters from the animated series, "The Simpsons," from left, Maggie, Marge, Lisa, Homer and Bart, are shown. Associated Press

**NEW YORK (AP)** — The FXX network plans a marathon telecast this summer of episodes of "The Simpsons" — all 552 of them consecutively. The network said Wednesday the marathon will start Aug. 21 and continue into Labor Day. FXX programming chief Chuck Saftler said it coincides with the network's purchase of rerun rights and the de-

velopment of an app that gives access to every episode of the long-running animated series.

Saftler said FXX will show four hours of episodes every Sunday this fall, up until the time a new episode is aired in prime time on Fox. FXX is televised in some 72 million homes, and it hopes to hit the 80 million mark sometime later this year. □

## Rapper Drake to host ESPYs sports awards show



In this Oct. 24, 2013 file photo, Drake performs during his "Would You Like A Tour" show in Toronto. Associated Press

**LOS ANGELES (AP)** — Drake is carving out a new niche as a television host and will helm the 2014 ESPYs, the sports award show of ESPN. The Toronto-based rapper, singer and actor and the sports entertainment network announced the gig Wednesday. The annual

light-hearted awards show will be held July 16 at the Nokia Theatre L.A. Live in Los Angeles and will be broadcast live. Drake's used to live TV. He turned in a strong performance as both host and musical guest on "Saturday Night Live" in January, a rare honor. □



# Comic book character Archie to be killed off

**DERRIK J. LANG**

**AP Entertainment Writer**

**LOS ANGELES (AP)** — Not even Archie Andrews is immortal in the world of comics.

Archie Comics announced Tuesday that the famous comic book character will heroically sacrifice himself while saving the life of a friend in a July installment of "Life with Archie," a comic book series that tells the story of grown-up renditions of Archie and his Riverdale gang.

"We've been building up to this moment since we launched 'Life with Archie' five years ago and knew that any book that was telling the story of Archie's

life as an adult had to also show his final moment," Archie Comics publisher and co-CEO Jon Goldwater said in a statement.

Archie's final moments will be detailed in "Life with Archie" No. 36, while issue No. 37 will jump forward a year and focus on his friends Jughead, Betty, Veronica and Reggie honoring the legacy of their red-headed pal.

Archie first appeared in comics in 1941 and went on to become a colorful icon of wholesomeness.

In recent years, Archie Comics has tackled such issues as gay characters and the zombie apocalypse in Archie's fictional



This photo released by Archie Comics shows "Life with Archie."

**Associated Press**

hometown of Riverdale. However, Archie himself won't need to rise from the grave. The freckle-faced character will still be alive and well in other series. □

# Lorde, Imagine Dragons lead Billboard nominations

**NEW YORK (AP)** — Newcomers Lorde and Imagine Dragons are the top contenders at next month's Billboard Music Awards.

The breakthrough acts are finalists in 12 categories, thanks to Lorde's Grammy-winning multiplatinum hit "Royals" and Imagine Dragons' "Radioactive," also a multiplatinum Grammy winner. Those smashes are nominated for top Hot 100 song against Robin Thicke's "Blurred Lines," Katy Perry's "Roar" and Miley Cyrus' "Wrecking Ball."



This March 10, 2014 file photo shows New Zealand singer-songwriter Lorde performing in concert at Roseland in New York.

**Associated Press**

Imagine Dragons is also up for top artist and will battle Cyrus, Perry, Bruno Mars and Justin Timberlake, who is nominated for 11 awards.

Timberlake's "The 20/20 Experience," last year's best-selling album, will compete against efforts from Beyonce, Eminem, Drake and Luke Bryan for top Billboard 200 album.

The 2014 Billboard Music Awards will air live on ABC from the MGM Grand Garden Arena in Las Vegas on May 18. □

# With vampires, Jim Jarmusch takes the long view

**JAKE COYLE**

**AP Film Writer**

**NEW YORK (AP)** — It's tempting to think of Jim Jarmusch's high-standing white hair as the mark of a lightning bolt that struck him long ago, leaving him forever an eager receiver for the electricity of inspiration.

"My antennae are always up. If something moves me,

I want it to be part of me," he says, wringing the middle of his shirt. "I want it to be mine, whether it's 17th century English music or if it is punk rock or if it is Outside jazz or if it is Flaubert and Balzac or if it is David Foster Wallace or even if it is (crime novelist) Richard Stark."

He goes on, adding silent movies, cartoons of the

Fleischer brothers, Dante. It's merely a tiny sampling. "I just collect and collect," he says, gesturing to his scribble-filled notebook, which he left open to occasionally reference during a recent midtown interview.

It's the same spirit — the nourishment of art and culture — that pervades Jarmusch's latest film. □

# Review: Rob Lowe wants readers to 'Love Life'

**BROOKE LEFFERTS**

**Associated Press**

When you look at actor Rob Lowe — especially on the cover of his new book, "Love Life" — you can't help but think that guy has



This book cover image released by Simon & Schuster shows "Love Life," by Rob Lowe.

**Associated Press**

it all: looks, talent, a great marriage and family, and a successful career. But if you delve into his prose, you'll likely think he's earned it. In "Love Life," Lowe was challenged to top his acclaimed best-seller, "Stories I Only Tell My Friends," without relying on the safe, linear structure of an autobiography. But if there's one thing the new book confirms, it's how much Lowe relishes a challenge. The title is a bit of a tease. "Love Life" isn't a noun; it's a command. Lowe aims to inspire readers to take chances — and appreciate what they have. Part self-help, part Acting 101, part-memoir, the book is a reflection of Lowe's layered life. He skillfully weaves stories together with common themes and a philosophical perspective.

Lowe could have written an entertaining book on life behind the scenes in Hollywood, but it's clear he wants to connect with readers by choosing experiences that become teaching moments. The book is brimming with les-

sons about being present, saying "yes" to life, taking risks and getting up after failure.

Fans who fear he gave up all the good stuff in the first book will be pleasantly surprised.

"Love Life" is catnip for pop culture addicts. Lowe names some names (his torturous kissing scene with singer Jewel and actor Tom Sizemore's personal meltdown are two examples), but is coy about other famous "friends" — tantalizing readers with only hints of the players in some juicy stories. Lowe talks about the craft of acting, offering tips on how to eat, use props and ad-lib on camera. He often reminds readers that entertainment is a business and success is fleeting. That's driven home in the failure of two shows he produced and starred in, even turning down the part Patrick Dempsey made into McDreamy in "Grey's Anatomy" for a series that never got past a few episodes. But every experience helps him grow. "The only time you flop is when you don't learn something," he writes. A contender in movies, TV and politics, Lowe meets Prince William and Kate, exchanges notes with former President Bill Clinton and pals around with scores of A-list celebrities. But instead of just name-dropping, he has a way of making the reader feel like he sneaked us in his shirt pocket and took us along for the ride.

As he stares at Warren Beatty's Oscar at the legend's home, or turns down Madonna for a dance at the Palladium, or is in the room with Arnold Schwarzenegger as he won the California gubernatorial election, he's looking over at us and whispering, "Can you believe this?!"

He manages to make being Rob Lowe somehow seem normal. □



## What Suffering Does



DAVID BROOKS  
© 2014 New York Times

During the past few weeks, I've found myself in a bunch of conversations in which the unspoken assumption was that the main goal of life is to maximize happiness. That's normal. When people plan for the future, they often talk about all the good times and good experiences they hope to have. We live in a culture awash in talk about happiness. In one three-month period last year, more than 1,000 books were released on Amazon on that subject.

But notice this phenomenon. When people remember the past, they don't only talk about happiness. It is often the ordeals that seem most significant. People shoot for happiness but feel formed through suffering.

Now, of course, it should be said that there is nothing intrinsically ennobling about suffering. Just as failure is sometimes just failure (and not your path to becoming the next Steve Jobs) suffering is sometimes just destructive, to be exited as quickly as possible.

But some people are clearly ennobled by it. Think of the way Franklin Roosevelt came back deeper and more empathetic after being struck with polio. Often, physical or social suffering can give people an outsider's perspective, an attuned awareness of what other outsiders are enduring.

But the big thing that suffering does is it takes you outside of precisely that logic that the happiness mentality encourages. Happiness wants you to think about maximizing your benefits. Difficulty and suffering sends you on a different course.

First, suffering drags you deeper into yourself. The theologian Paul Tillich wrote that people who endure suffering are taken beneath the routines of life and find they are not who they believed themselves to be. The agony involved in, say, composing a great piece of music or the grief of having lost a loved one smashes through what they thought was the bottom floor of their personality, revealing an area below, and then it smashes through that floor revealing another area.

Then, suffering gives people a more accurate sense of their own limitations, what they can control and cannot control. When people are thrust down into these deeper zones, they are forced to confront the fact they can't determine what goes

on there. Try as they might, they just can't tell themselves to stop feeling pain, or to stop missing the one who has died or gone. And even when tranquility begins to come back, or in those moments when grief eases, it is not clear where the relief comes from. The healing process, too, feels as though it's part of some natural or divine process beyond individual control.

People in this circumstance often have the sense that they are swept up in some larger providence. Abraham Lincoln suffered through the pain of conducting a civil war, and he came out of that with the Second Inaugural. He emerged with this sense that there were deep currents of agony and redemption sweeping not just through him but through the nation as a whole, and that he was just an instrument for transcendent tasks.

It's at this point that people in the midst of difficulty begin to feel a call. They are not masters of the situation, but neither are they helpless. They can't determine the course of their pain, but they can participate in responding to it. They often feel an overwhelming moral responsibility to respond well to it. People who seek this proper rejoinder to ordeal sense that they are at a deeper level than the level of happiness and individual utility. They don't say, "Well, I'm feeling a lot of pain over the loss of my child. I should try to balance my hedonic account by going to a lot of parties and whooping it up."

The right response to this sort of pain is not pleasure. It's holiness. I don't even mean that in a purely religious sense. It means seeing life as a moral drama, placing the hard experiences in a moral context and trying to redeem something bad by turning it into something sacred. Parents who've lost a child start foundations. Lincoln sacrificed himself for the Union. Prisoners in the concentration camp with psychologist Viktor Frankl rededicated themselves to living up to the hopes and expectations of their loved ones, even though those loved ones might themselves already be dead.

Recovering from suffering is not like recovering from a disease. Many people don't come out healed; they come out different. They crash through the logic of individual utility and behave paradoxically. Instead of recoiling from the sorts of loving commitments that almost always involve suffering, they throw themselves more deeply into them. Even while experiencing the worst and most lacerating consequences, some people double down on vulnerability. They hurl themselves deeper and gratefully into their art, loved ones and commitments.

The suffering involved in their tasks becomes a fearful gift and very different from that equal and other gift, happiness, conventionally defined. □



## Oligarchs and Money



PAUL KRUGMAN  
© 2014 New York Times

Econonomers eagerly await each new edition of the International Monetary Fund's World Economic Outlook. Never mind the forecasts, what we're waiting for are the analytical chapters, which are always interesting and even provocative. This latest report is no exception. In particular, Chapter 3 - although billed as an analysis of trends in real (inflation-adjusted) interest rates - in effect makes a compelling case for raising inflation targets above 2 percent, the current norm in advanced countries.

This conclusion fits in with other IMF research. Last month the fund's blog - yes, it has one - discussed the problems created by "lowflation," which is nearly as destructive as outright deflation. An earlier edition of the World Economic Outlook analyzed historical experience with high debt, and found that countries that were willing to let inflation erode their debt - including the United States - fared much better than those, like Britain after World War I, that clung to monetary and fiscal orthodoxy.

But the IMF evidently doesn't feel able to say outright what its analysis clearly implies. Instead, the report resorts to euphemisms that preserve deniability: The analysis "could have implications for the appropriate monetary policy framework."

So what makes the obvious unsayable? In a direct sense, what

we're seeing is the power of conventional wisdom. But conventional wisdom doesn't come from nowhere, and I'm increasingly convinced that our failure to deal with high unemployment has a lot to do with class interests. First, let's talk about the case for higher inflation.

Many people understand that a falling price level is a bad thing; nobody wants to turn into Japan, which has struggled with deflation since the 1990s. What's less understood is that there isn't a red line at zero: an economy with 0.5 percent inflation is going to have many of the same problems as an economy with 0.5 percent deflation. That's why the IMF warned that "lowflation" is putting Europe at risk of Japanese-style stagnation, even though literal deflation hasn't happened (yet).

Moderate inflation turns out to serve several useful purposes. It's good for debtors - and therefore good for the economy as a whole when an overhang of debt is holding back growth and job creation. It encourages people to spend rather than sit on cash - again, a good thing in a depressed economy. And it can serve as a kind of economic lubricant, making it easier to adjust wages and prices in the face of shifting demand.

But how much inflation is appropriate? European inflation is below 1 percent, which is clearly too low, and U.S. inflation isn't that much higher. But would it be enough to get back to 2 percent, the official inflation target in both Europe and the United States? Almost certainly not.

You see, monetary experts have long known about the case for moderate inflation, but back in the 1990s, when the 2 percent target was hardening into policy orthodoxy, they thought that 2 percent was high enough to do the job. In particular, they thought it was enough to make li-

quidity traps - periods when even an interest rate of zero isn't low enough to restore full employment - very rare. But the United States has now been in a liquidity trap for more than five years. Clearly, the experts were wrong. Furthermore, as the latest IMF report shows, there's strong evidence that changes in the global economy are increasing the tendency of investors to hoard cash rather than put funds to work, thereby increasing the risk of liquidity traps unless the inflation target is raised. But the report never dares to say this outright.

So why is the obvious unsayable? One answer is that serious people like to prove their seriousness by calling for tough choices and sacrifice (by other people, of course). They hate being told about answers that don't involve more suffering.

And behind this attitude, one suspects, lies class bias. Doing what the United States did after World War II - using low interest rates and inflation to erode the debt burden - is often referred to as "financial repression," which sounds bad. But who wouldn't prefer modest inflation and a bit of asset erosion to mass unemployment? Well, you know who: the 0.1 percent, who receive "only" 4 percent of wages but account for more than 20 percent of total wealth. Modestly higher inflation, say 4 percent, would be good for the vast majority of people, but it would be bad for the superelite. And guess who gets to define conventional wisdom.

Now, I don't think that class interest is all-powerful. Good arguments and good policies sometimes prevail even if they hurt the 0.1 percent - otherwise we would never have gotten health reform. But we do need to make clear what's going on, and realize that in monetary policy as in so much else, what's good for oligarchs isn't good for America. □



# For Passover, Fried Artichokes

JOAN NATHAN

© 2014 New York Times

**ROME** - I have always loved artichokes fried in the Jewish style, or *carciofi alla giudia*, a traditional dish of the Roman Seder. So on a recent trip to Rome, I hunted for them. Every chef I queried had the same answer, delivered with the same slightly weary shrug: "You have to go to the ghetto for that."

The former Jewish ghetto is near the center of the city, on the banks of the Tiber. At one restaurant there, a worker carved away the tough parts of

chokes that resembles a bird's beak knife.

When artichokes are in season, she cooks hundreds, freezing them after the first frying and refrying them for Passover and birthdays and family gatherings throughout the year. "I cook 30 per hour," Fano said.

"When I cook artichokes," she added, "I think of my grandmother, who taught me this great Passover tradition, passed down to me for generations."

FRIED ARTICHOKEs

Time: About 1 hour

green fiber and leaving about 2 inches of stem if possible. Immediately put the artichokes in the lemon water to prevent browning.

3. Fill an electric fryer or deep cast-iron enameled pot with enough oil to almost cover artichokes. Heat to 325 degrees. While oil is heating, dry artichokes well with paper towels. Tap the flat top of the cut artichoke against the table to loosen the leaves. Sprinkle with salt and pepper, rubbing in the seasoning.

4. Fry artichokes in batches. Cook, turning occasion-



**Artichokes for use in *carciofi alla giudia*, a Passover staple, in Rome. Fresh artichokes in season can be frozen after a first fry and then re-fried just before serving.**

(Chris Warde-Jones for The New York Times)

the artichokes until they resembled small balls of yellow and green. After frying, they were as crisp as a potato chip on the outside but tender at the heart. I nibbled on just a few so I would still be hungry when I found my way to the penthouse of Paola Modigliani Fano, a home cook who lives just outside the ghetto in the 16th-century Palazzo Cenci.

Fano, a retired high school science teacher, greeted me at the door with two gifts: a facsimile of Donatella Limentani Pavoncello's 1880 cookbook, "La Cucina Ebraica della Mia Famiglia" ("The Jewish Cooking of My Family"), and a *coltello da carciofi*, a knife for cutting arti-

Yield: 8 servings

2 tablespoons fine sea salt, or to taste

1 teaspoon ground black pepper, or to taste

Juice and rind of 2 lemons

8 American globe artichokes

2 or more quarts of olive oil, for frying

1. Mix salt and pepper in a small bowl. Fill a large bowl with water and add juice and rinds of lemons. Set both bowls aside.

2. Using a sharp paring or bird's beak knife, shave off the tough outer leaves of artichokes until you reach the tender pale green or yellow leaves and create a bulbous shape. Cut off at least an inch of the thorny top. Trim the stem near the heart, peeling off the outer

ally with tongs, for about 15 minutes, or until a fork easily pierces the stem at its thickest point. The outside should be bronzed.

5. Remove artichokes from oil and drain well, stem side up, on a paper-towel-lined baking sheet. Gently open leaves to remove choke (using a grapefruit spoon or melon baller) and encourage the leaves to spread. You can now freeze them or leave them out, stem side up, for a few hours until ready to finish.

6. When ready to serve, reheat the oil to 350. Working in batches again, return artichokes, stem side up, to hot oil just to crisp. Drain well and serve immediately with a sprinkle of salt. Eat with your fingers. □

## At Press Time:

# More pings raise hopes Flight 370 will be found

KRISTEN GELINEAU

NICK PERRY

Associated Press

**PERTH, Australia (AP)** — After a navy ship heard more signals from deep in the Indian Ocean, the head of the search for the missing Malaysian jetliner said Wednesday he believes the hunt is closing in on the "final resting place" of Flight 370.

The Australian vessel Ocean Shield picked up two signals Tuesday, and an analysis of two other sounds detected Saturday showed they were consistent with a plane's flight recorders, or "black boxes," said Angus Houston, the Australian official coordinating the search for the Malaysian Airlines jet.

"I'm now optimistic that we will find the aircraft, or what is left of the aircraft, in the not-too-distant future," Houston said. "But we haven't found it yet, because this is a very challenging business."

Finding the flight data and cockpit voice recorders soon is important because their locator beacons have a battery life of about a month, and Tuesday marked one month since Flight 370 vanished March 8 en route from Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, to Beijing with 239 people aboard.

If the batteries fail before the recorders are located, finding them in such deep water — about 4,500 meters, or 15,000 feet — would be difficult, if not impossible.

"I believe we are searching in the right area, but we need to visually identify aircraft wreckage before we can confirm with certainty that this is the final resting place of MH370," Houston said. "For the sake of the 239 families, this is absolutely imperative."

The hope expressed by Houston contrasted with the frustrating monthlong search for the Boeing 777, which disappeared shortly after takeoff in one of the biggest mysteries in aviation history. The plane veered off-course for an unknown reason, with officials saying that satellite data indicates it went down in the southern Indian Ocean off the coast of western Australia. The black boxes could help solve that mystery.

The signals detected 1,645 kilometers (1,020 miles) northwest of Perth by the Ocean Shield's towed ping locators are the strongest indication yet that the plane crashed and is now at the bottom of the ocean in the area where the search is now focused.

A data analysis of the signals heard Saturday determined they were distinct, man-made and pulsed consistently, Houston said.

"They believe the signals to be consistent with the specification and description of a flight data recorder," he said.

To assist the Ocean Shield, the Australian navy dropped buoys by parachute in a pattern near where the signals were last heard.

Royal Australian Navy Commodore Peter Leavy said each buoy will dangle a hydrophone listening device about 300 meters (1,000 feet) below the surface. The hope, he said, is the buoys will help better pinpoint the signals.

Houston acknowledged searchers were running out of time, noting the last two signals were weaker and briefer than the first pair heard Saturday, suggesting the batteries are failing. One lasted two hours and 20 minutes and the second lasted 13 minutes; those heard Tuesday lasted just 5 1/2 minutes and 7 minutes. "So we need to, as we say in Australia, 'make hay while the sun shines,'" Houston said. □